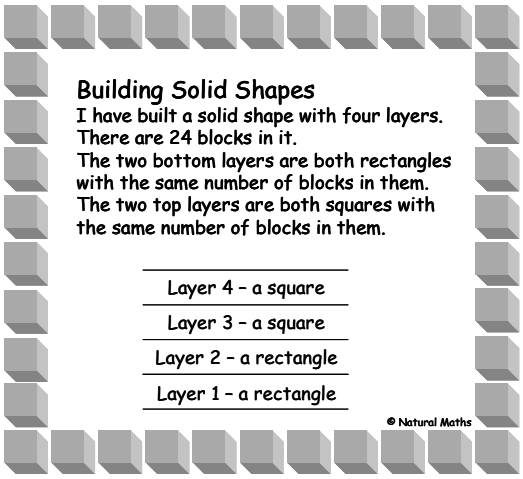
14: Building Solid Shapes



Reflection

What did you do to get started on this activity?

What difficulties did you face?

What was a good strategy for this activity?

How did you check that you had followed all the clues?

If you had to do another one how would you begin next time?

Application

You can use this activity to:

- consolidate the language of position
- consolidate the language of 3D and 2D shape
- provide practical activities where the students can practice creating and using the language of shape
- provide contexts for using trial and error as a way of getting started on a problem

Extension

You can increase the complexity of this activity by:

- changing the types of shapes being constructed
- increasing the number of blocks being worked with
- insisting that number concepts and knowledge be used as a starting point rather than trial and error

Innovation

You can innovate on this activity as follows:

1. Add in colour as part of the clues.
2. Ask the students to create their own buildings and clues.
3. Introduce hollow shapes.
4. Give clues where there is more than one possible outcome.

Building Solid Shapes

I have built a solid shape with four layers.
There are 24 blocks in it.
The two bottom layers are both rectangles with the same number of blocks in them.
The two top layers are both squares with the same number of blocks in them.

Layer 4 – a square
Layer 3 – a square
Layer 2 – a rectangle
Layer 1 – a rectangle