

THE LEGO[®] ADVENTURE BOOK

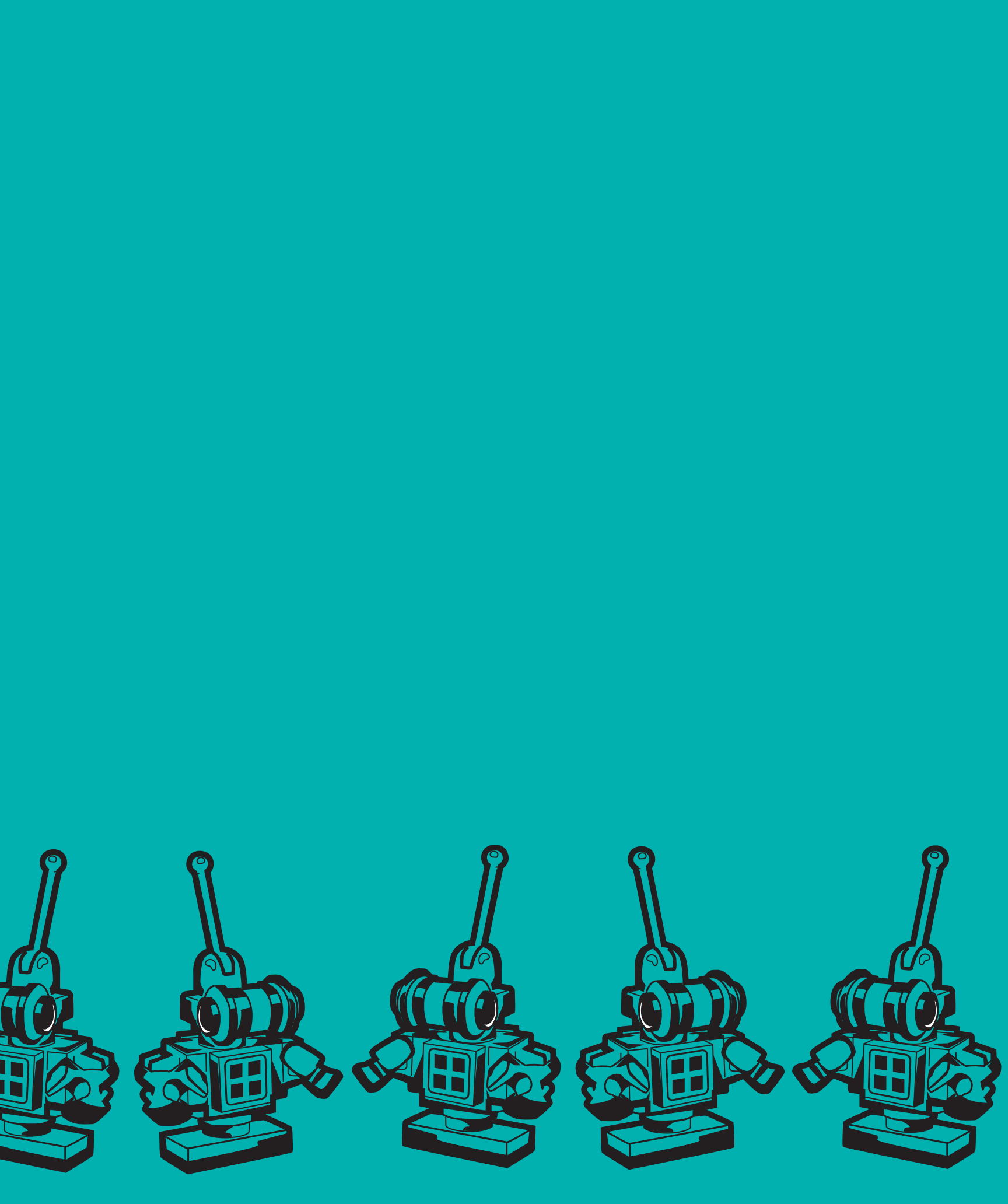


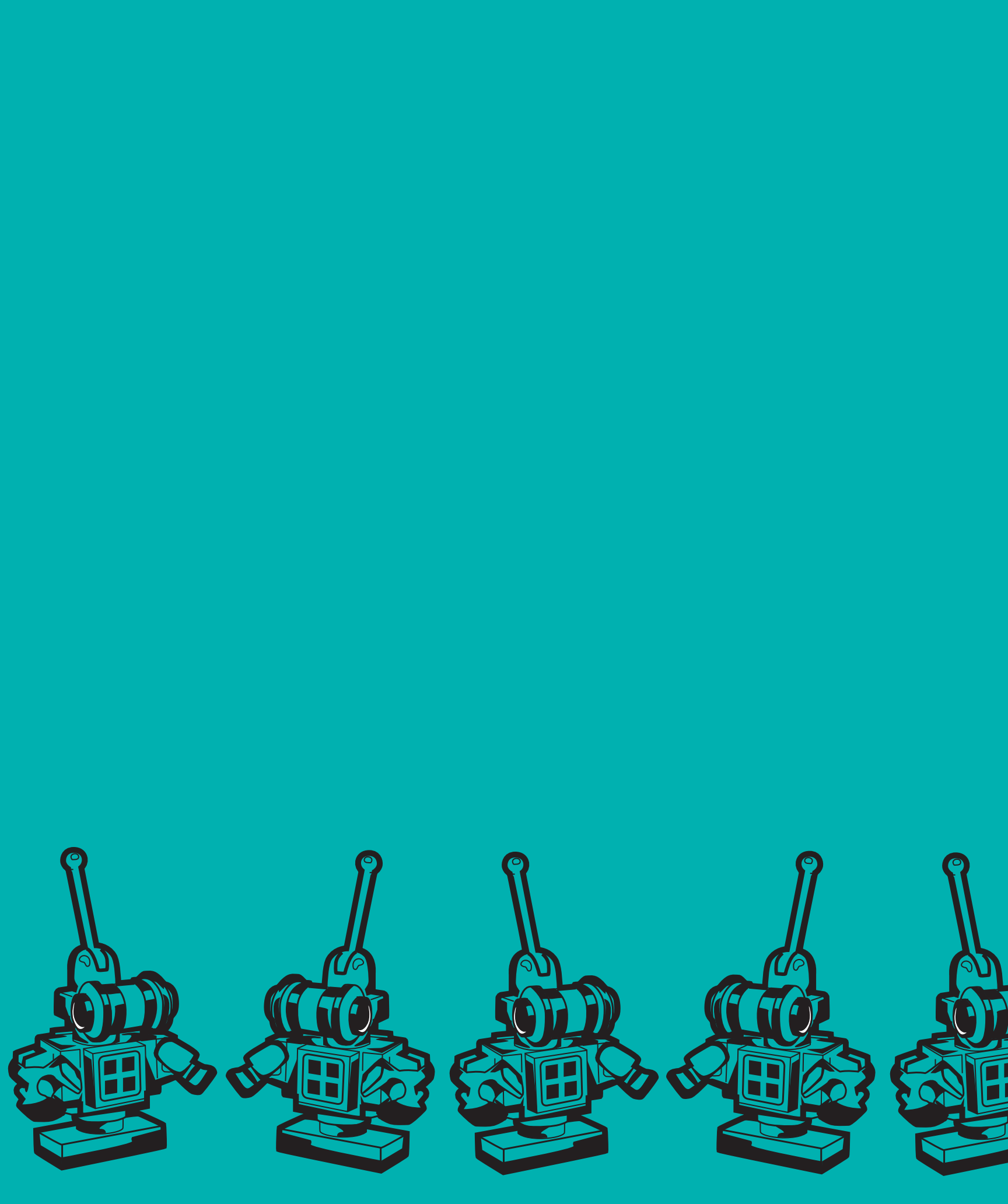
CARS, CASTLES, DINOSAURS & MORE!

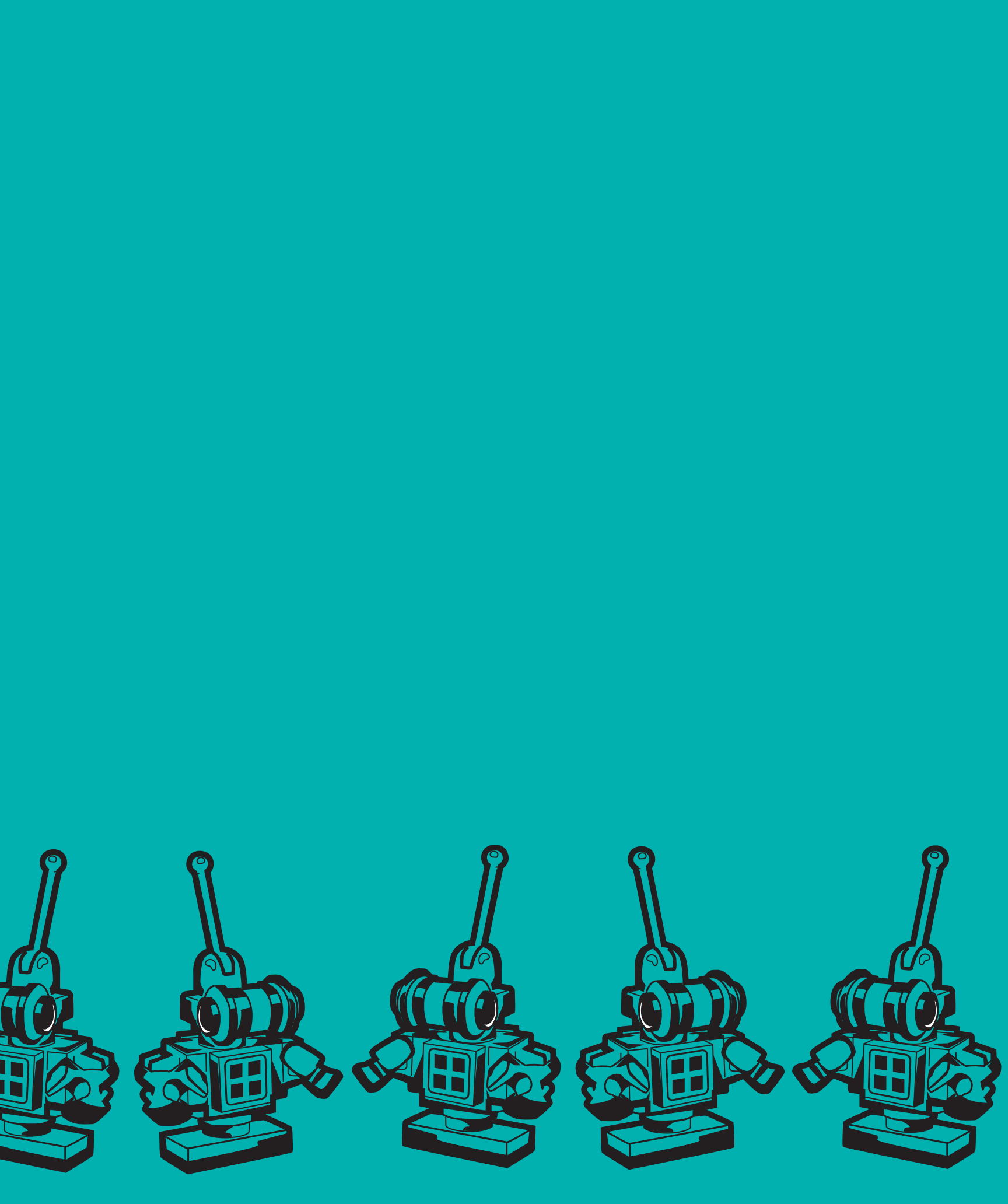
NEARLY 200 MODELS + 25 BRICK-BY-BRICK BREAKDOWNS

MEGAN ROTHROCK









The LEGO® Adventure Book

Cars, Castles,
Dinosaurs & More!



For years, I've wanted to learn to be a better builder, to do more with the LEGO bricks I have been creating with my entire life. So today, I decided to do it. I packed up my stuff and headed into the unknown. What will I build? What other LEGO builds might I encounter? It's going to be fun finding out!

Megan Rothrock



**no starch
press**

San Francisco

The LEGO Adventure Book: Cars, Castles, Dinosaurs & More!

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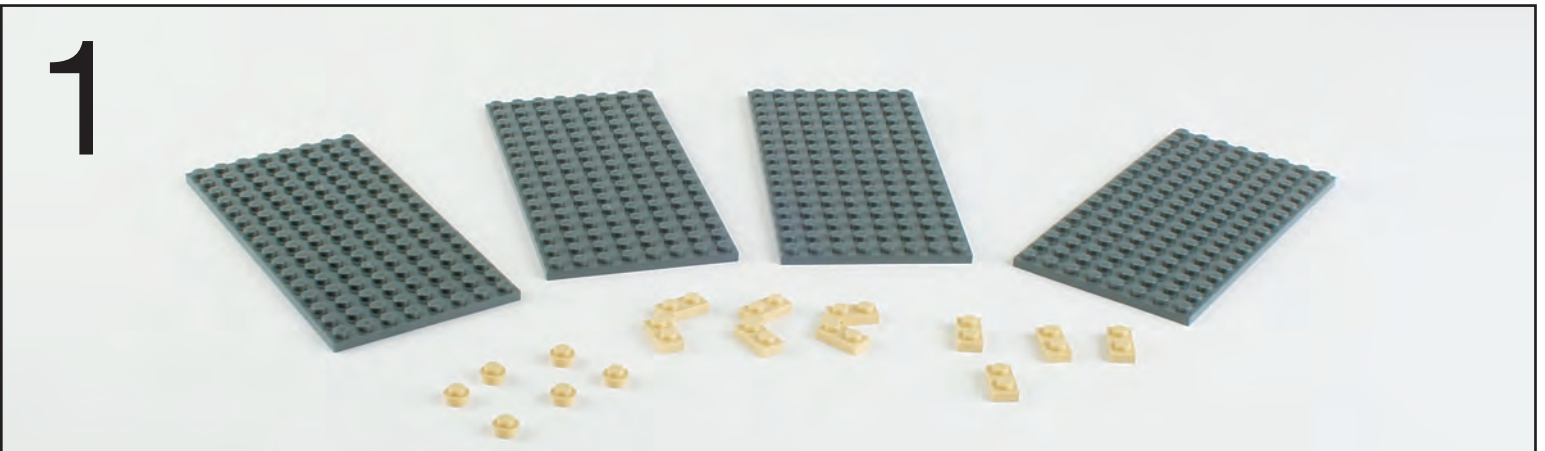
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Building the Idea Lab



2



Building Tip

Make sure your hinge plates are aligned correctly. This allows the final building to open.

1



2



3



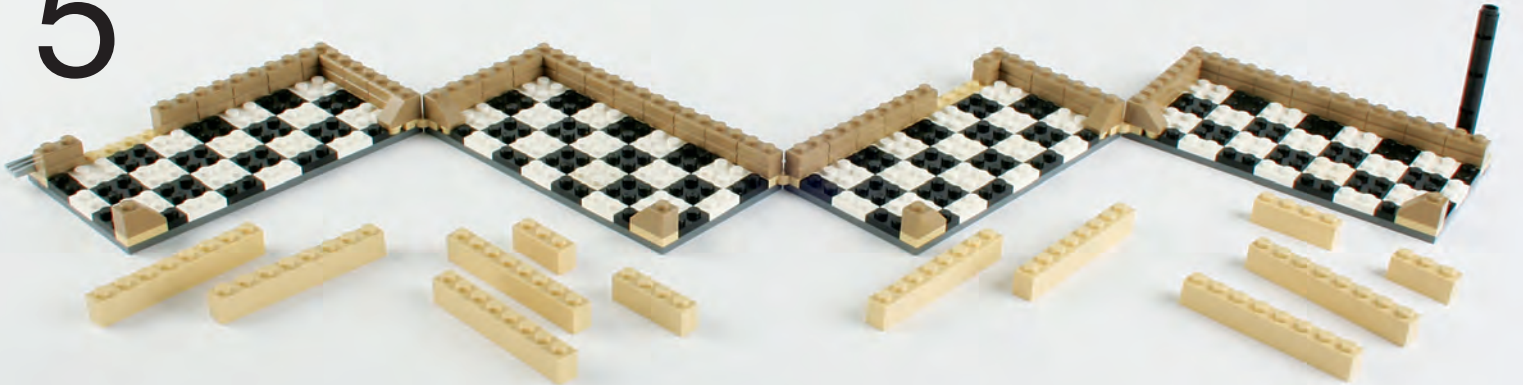
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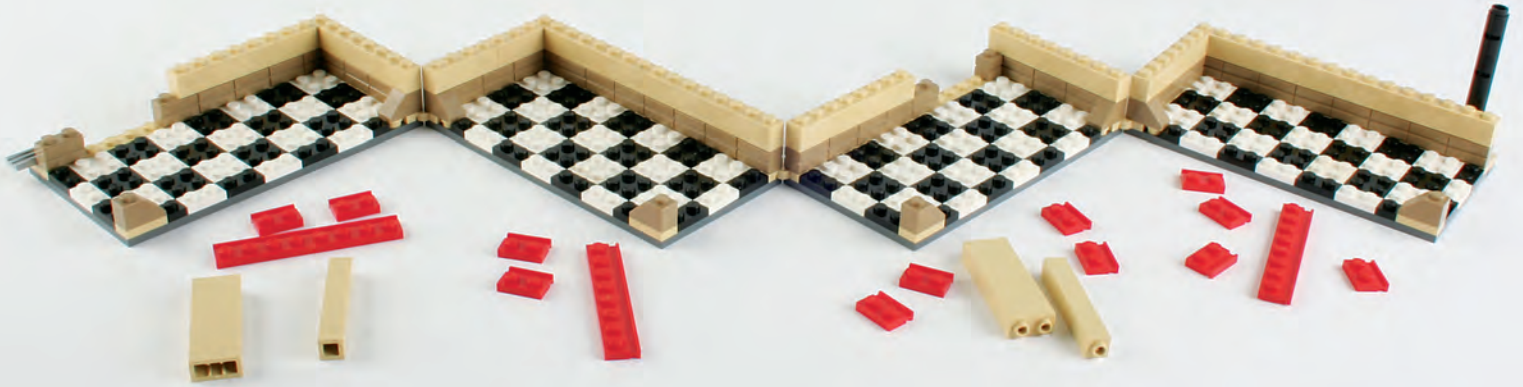
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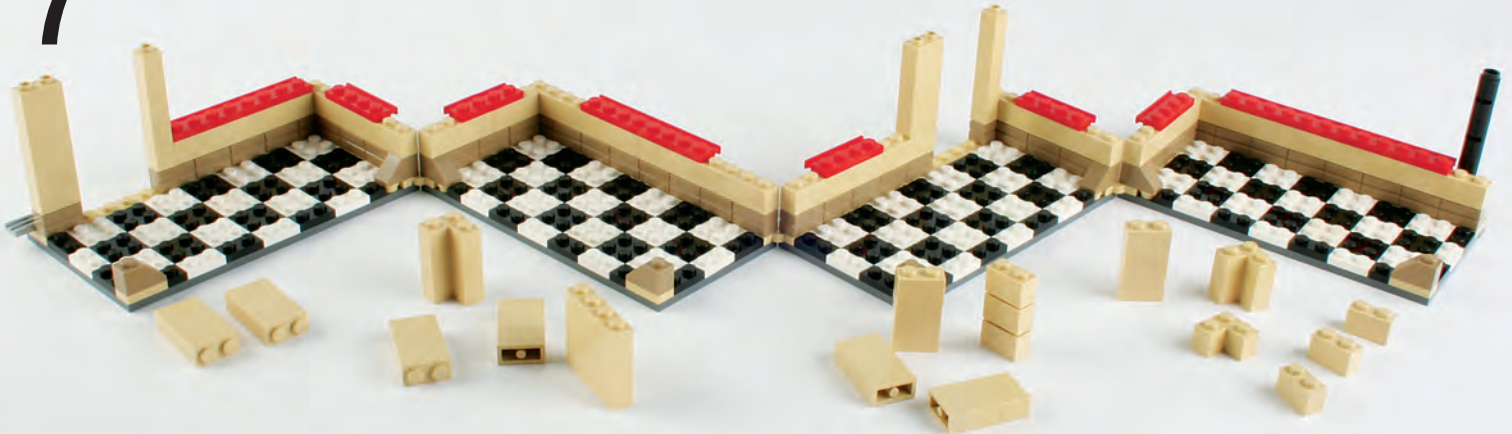
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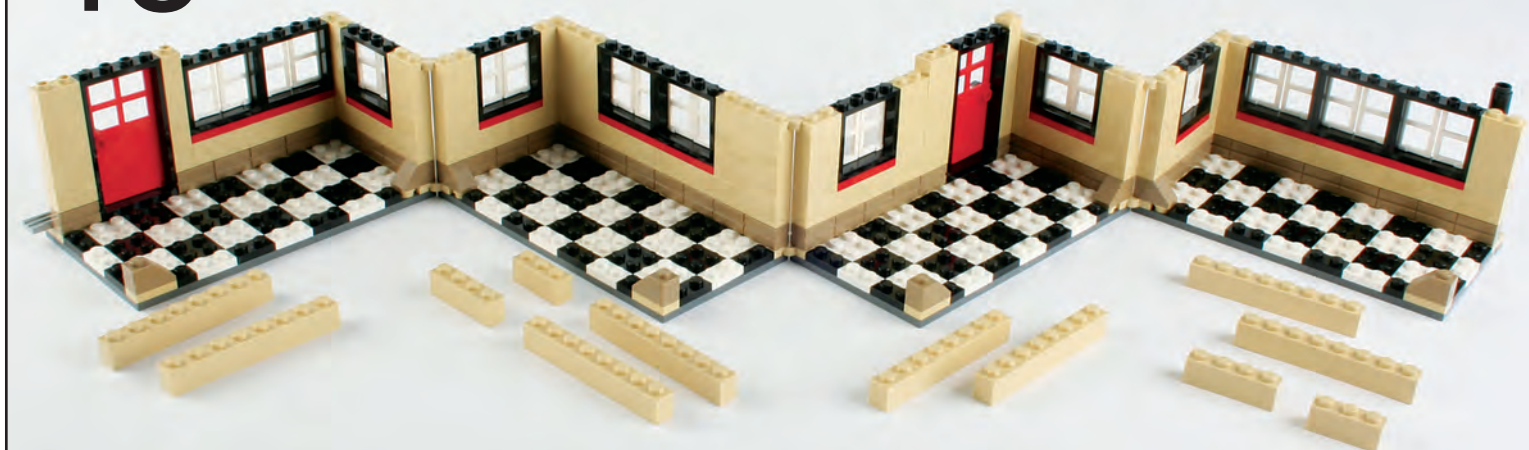
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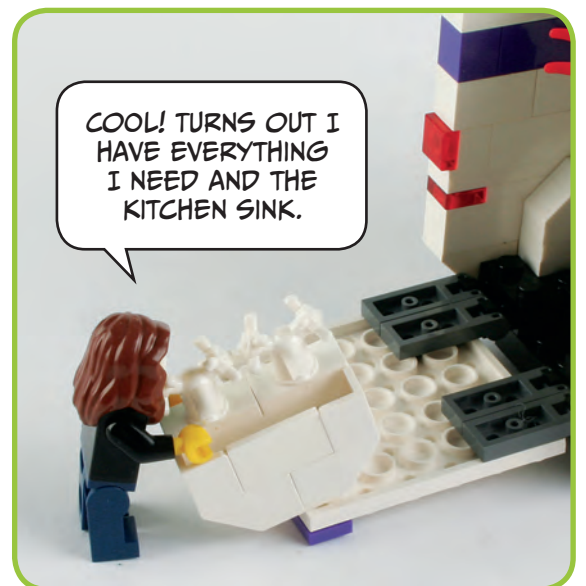
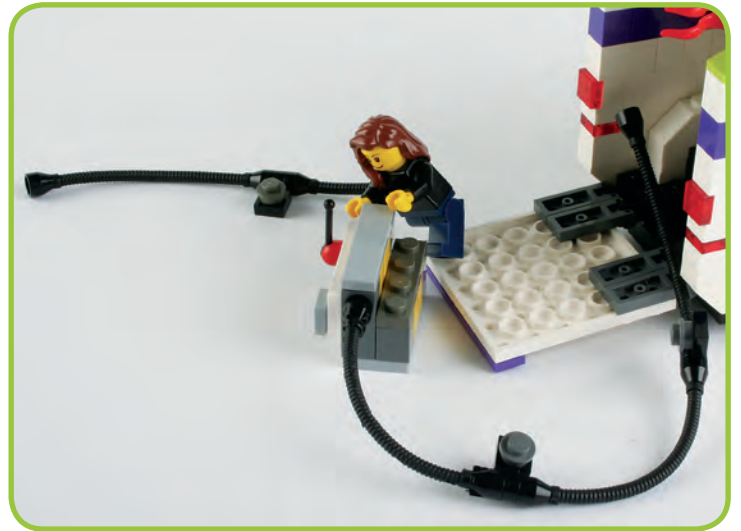


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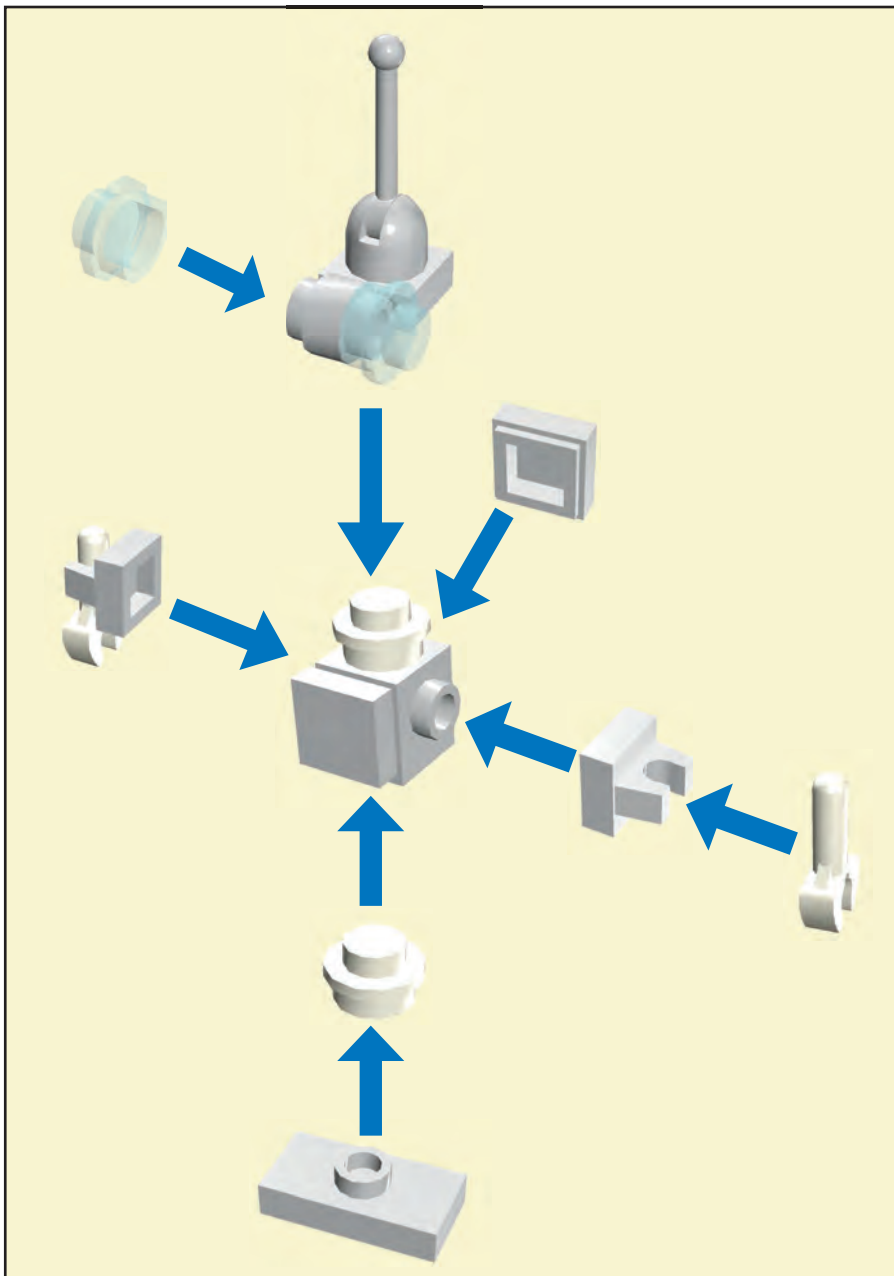
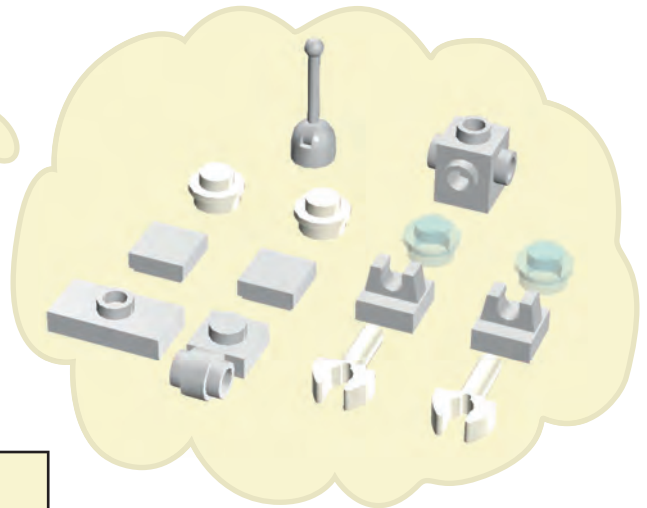
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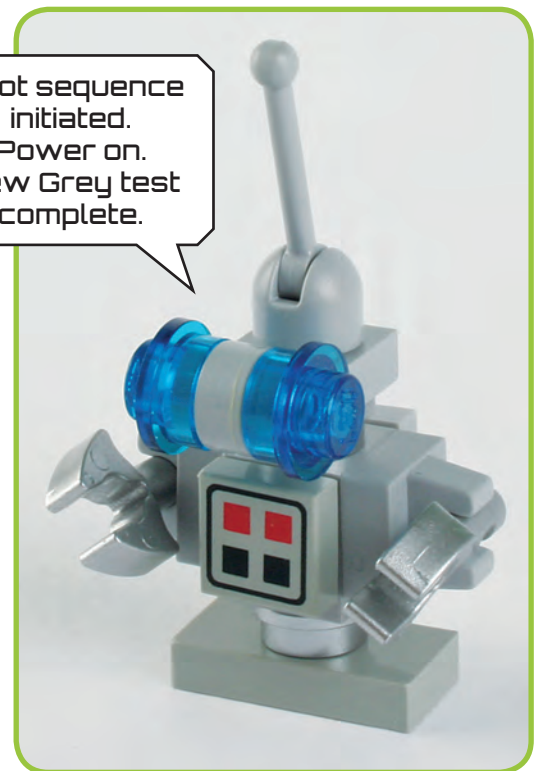


COOL! TURNS OUT I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED AND THE KITCHEN SINK.

I STILL HAVE A LOT
TO DO. I NEED AN
ASSISTANT—AND I KNOW
JUST HOW TO BUILD HIM!



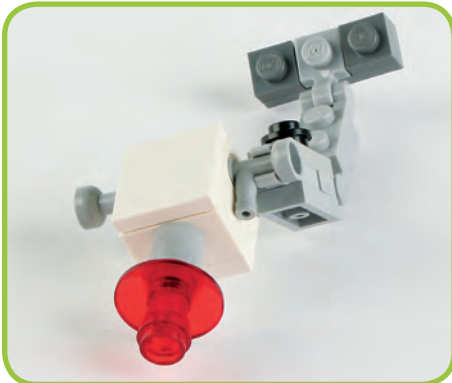
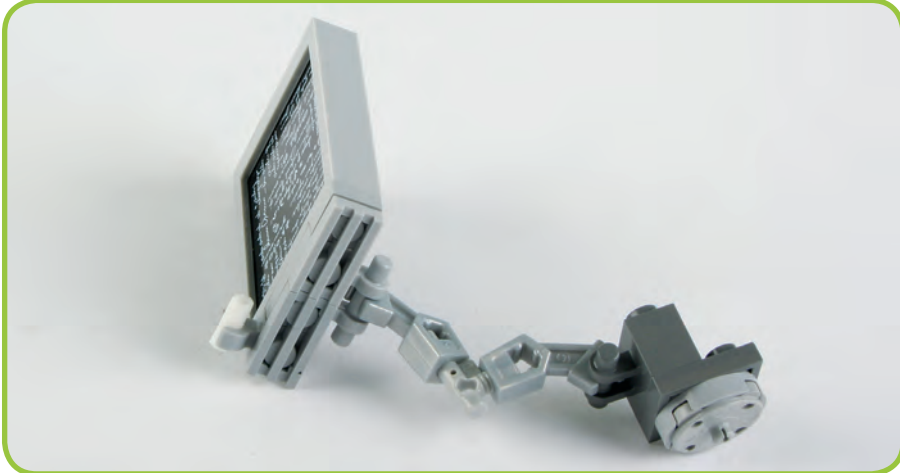
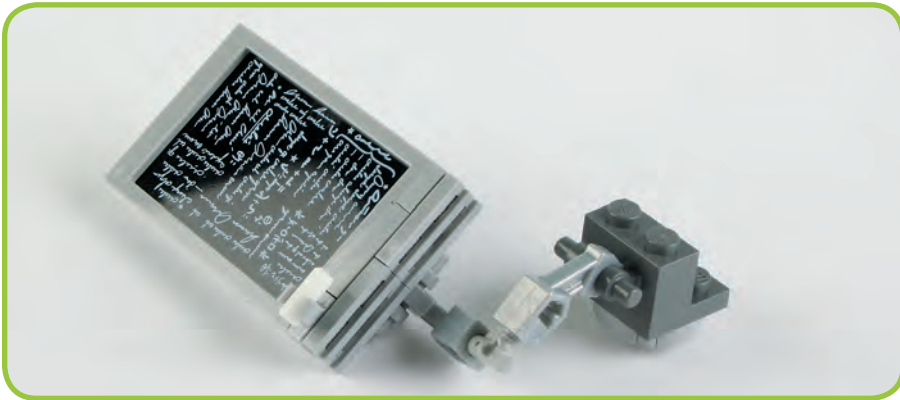
Boot sequence
initiated.
Power on.
New Grey test
complete.





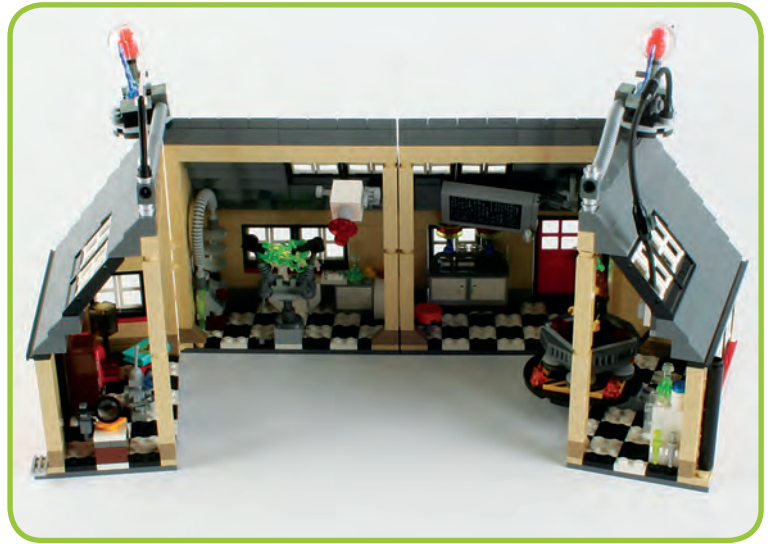
Hello. I am Brickbot. I must take inventory of your laboratory equipment so I will know how to use it.





A chair and a lamp?
I do not require
these items.







Transport-o-lux

AWESOME! WITH THE POWER COILS IN PLACE, MY AMAZING IDEA LAB IS NOW COMPLETE. I'VE GOT A FEW IDEAS, BUT FOR INSPIRATION I WANT TO SEE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE BUILDING! EVEN THOUGH MY TRUCK IS COOL, I'M GOING TO NEED SOMETHING A LITTLE FASTER.



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ALL FINISHED!

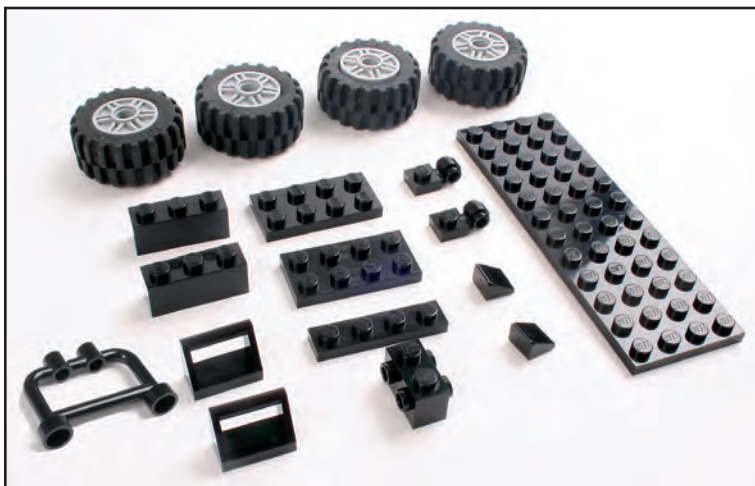
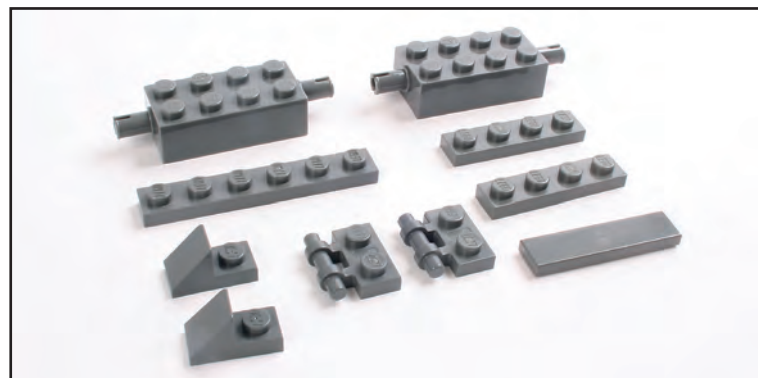
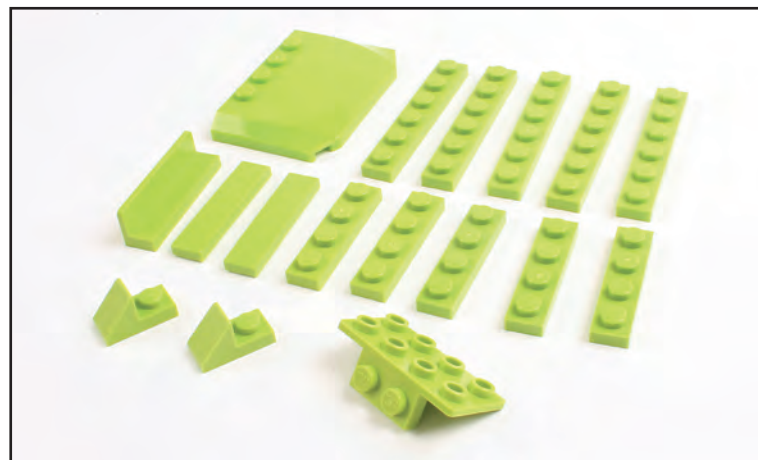


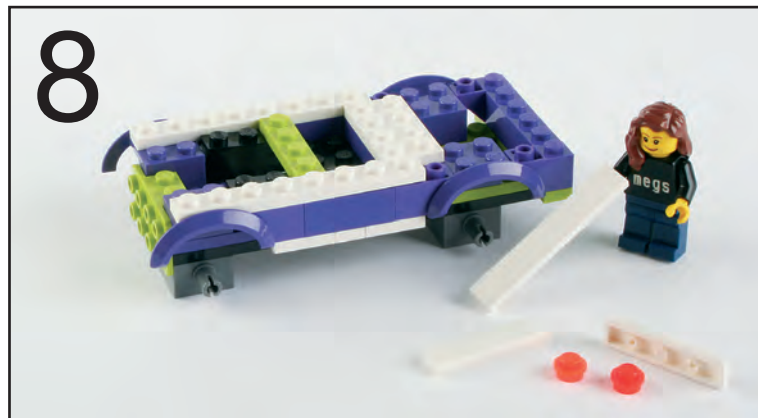
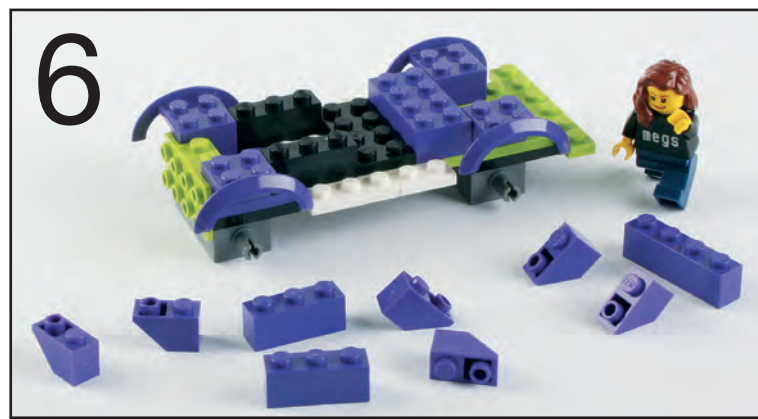
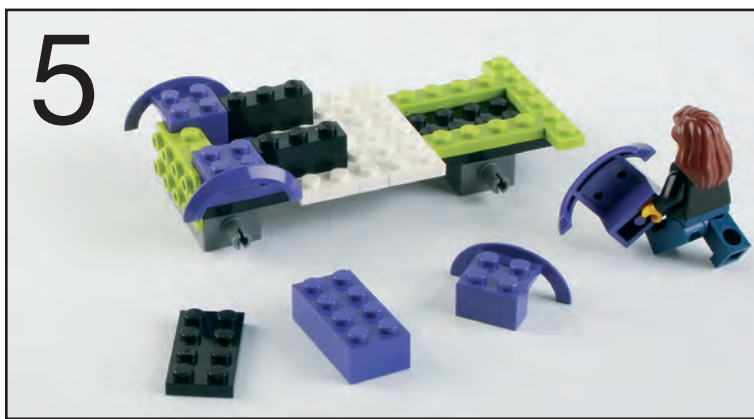
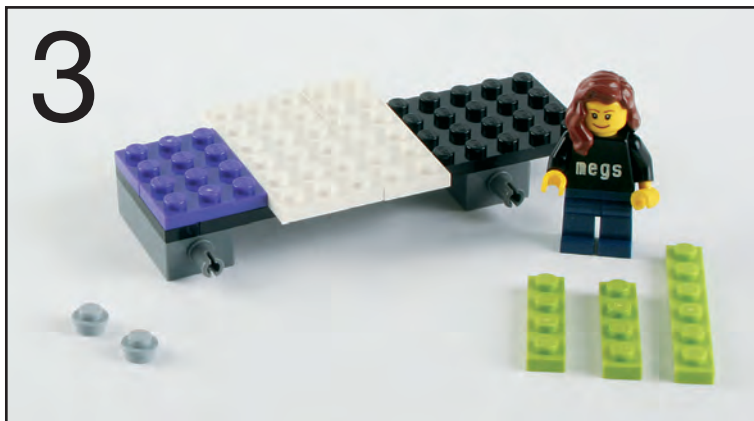
4x4 Truck

BUILDING JOURNAL

As I was working on the Transport-o-lux today, I remembered my first creation: my 4x4 truck. It was just in my head one morning, and I had to build it.

I knew the secrets of building a car, like getting the right distance between the wheels; making a good chassis; making the front look right; and adding lights, a fender, side mirrors, and wheel arches. I wasn't a vehicle expert, but building my truck gave me experience with the basics. From that day on I knew I was creator—one of the special ones who can think of a thing and then build it!









Trailer

MY NEW TRUCK WAS ABSOLUTELY EPIC, BUT IT DIDN'T HAVE ROOM FOR ALL MY STUFF. SO I DECIDED TO ADD A TRAILER!





Building Tip

A simple two-stud connection makes your trailer easy to attach and detach from your truck.



Building Tip

Adding a kickstand lets you park your trailer.



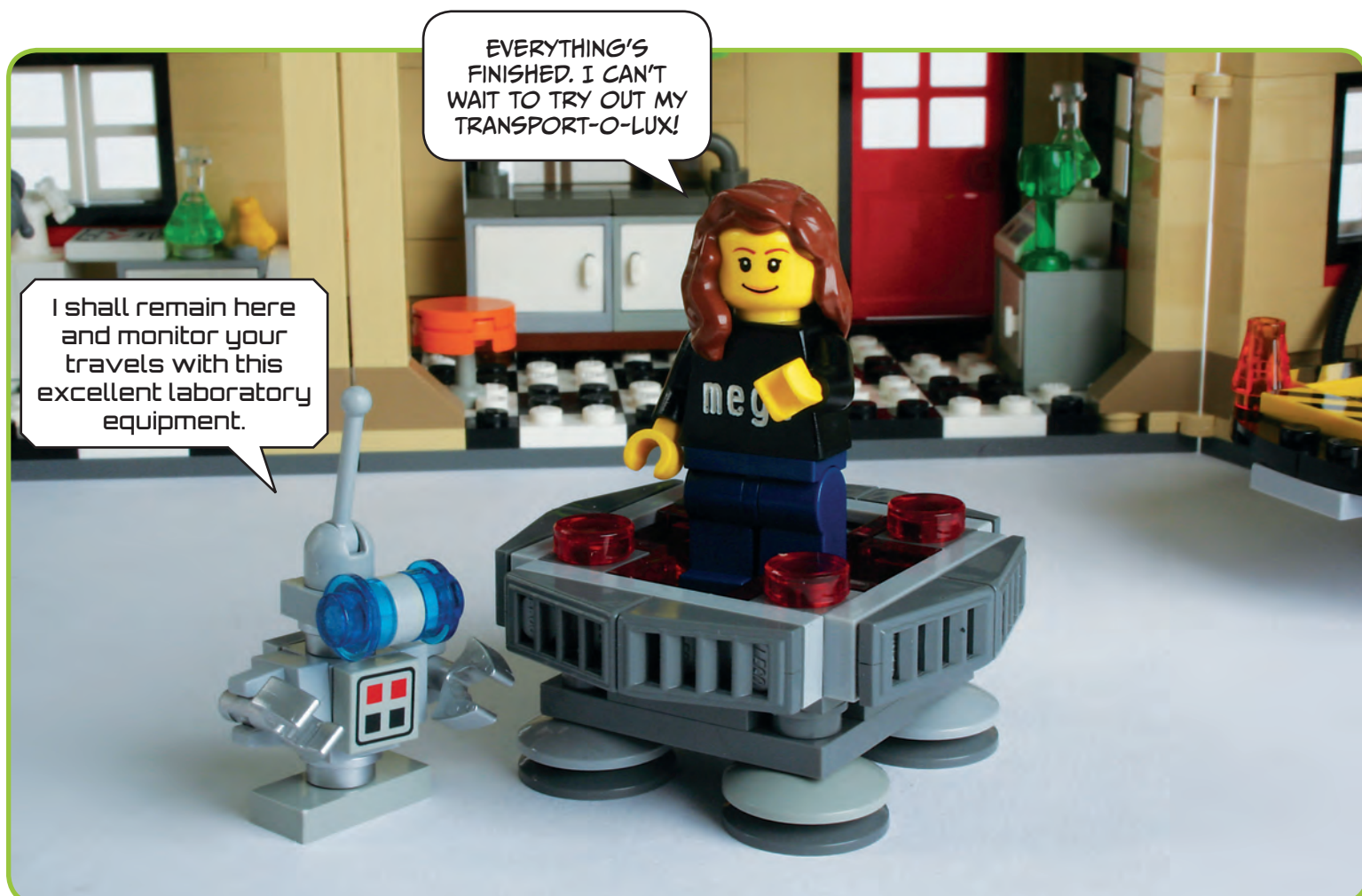
BUILDING JOURNAL

I had to think about my trailer's purpose and then add the appropriate details, just like I did with my science equipment.

Adding a trailer can change the look and utility of a vehicle. Now my 4x4 truck can carry much more! I think I'll call it my Idea Truck.

Now that I know which pieces I need for the Idea Truck, I can build it in other colors, too.









A LEGO Town



Craig Mandeville

Nickname: Solitary Dark

Profession: Aircraft Parts Manager

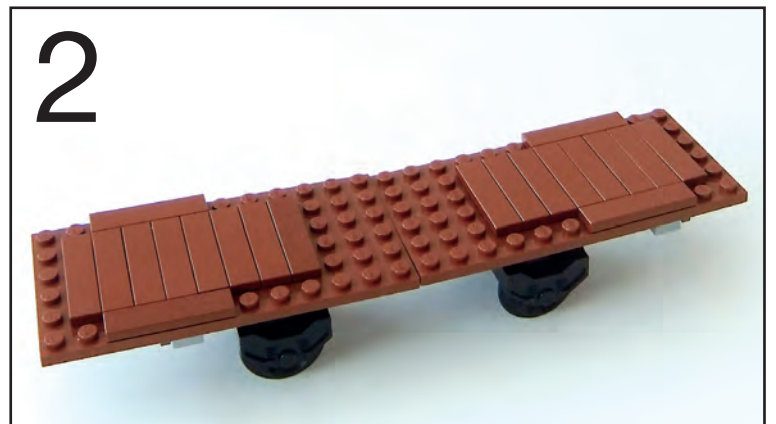
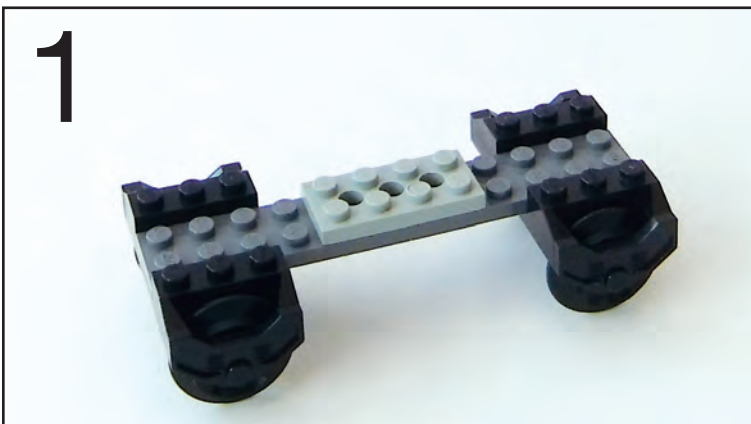
Nationality: British

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Cable Car



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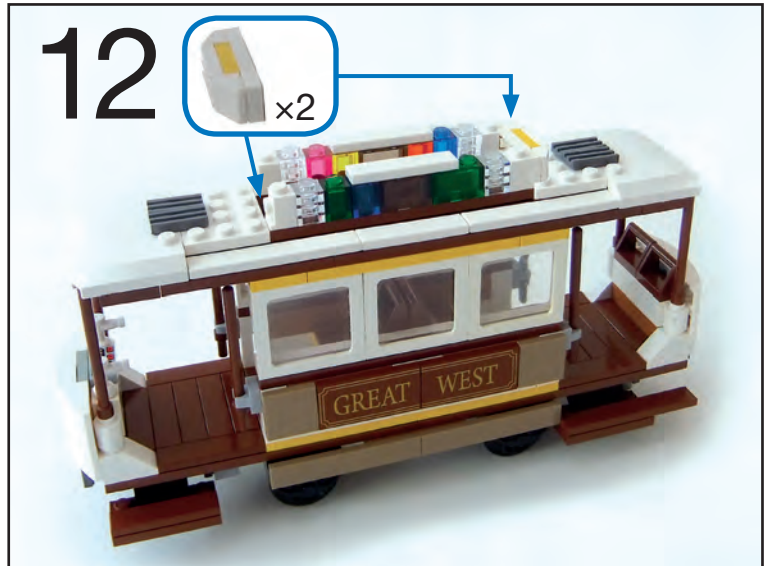
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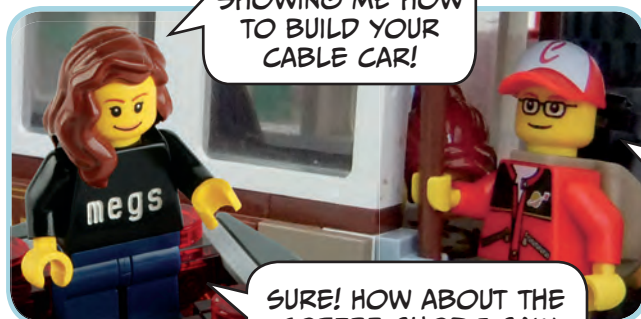


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PLACING YOUR CABLE CAR ON SOME LEGO TRAIN TRACKS AND ADDING BUILDINGS HELPS TO BRING YOUR LEGO TOWN TO LIFE.



THANKS FOR SHOWING ME HOW TO BUILD YOUR CABLE CAR!

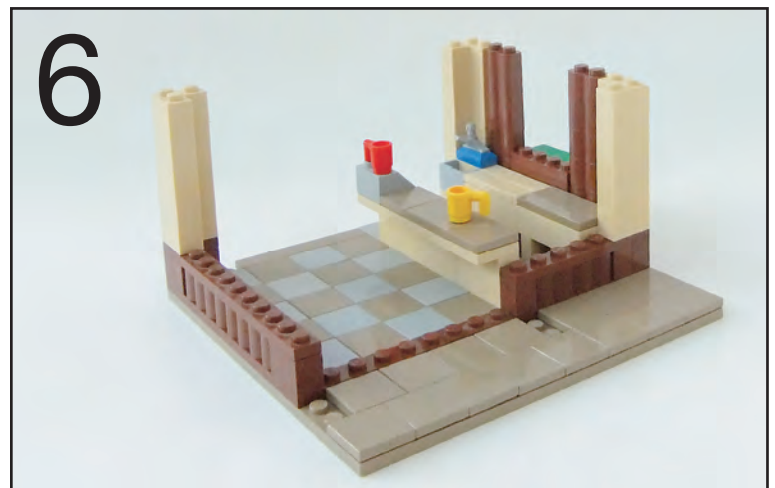
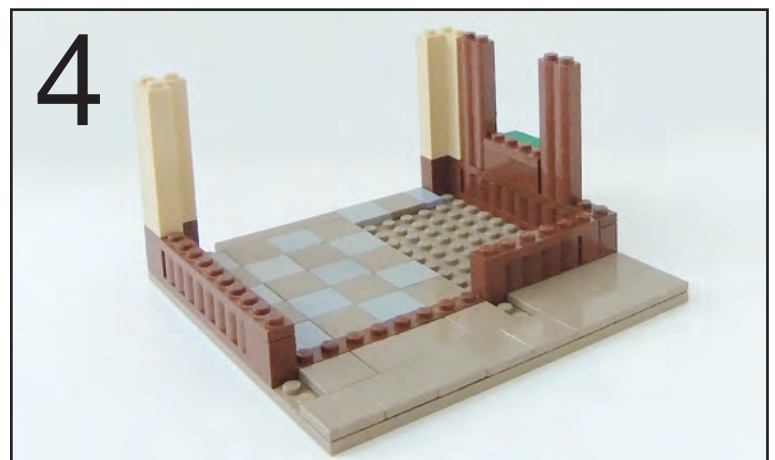
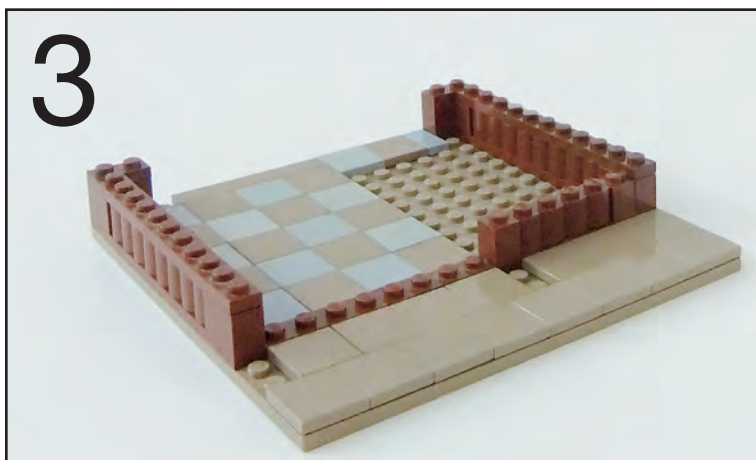
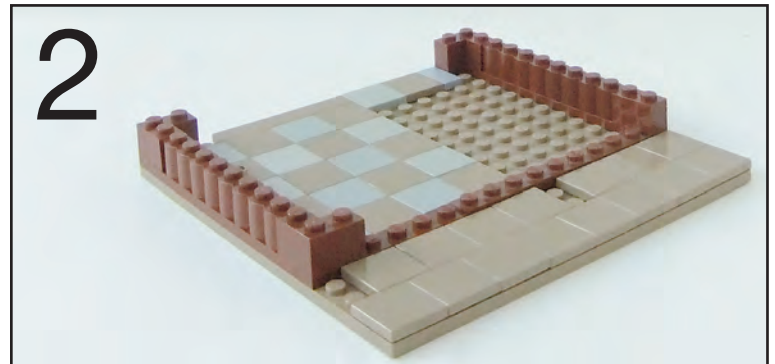
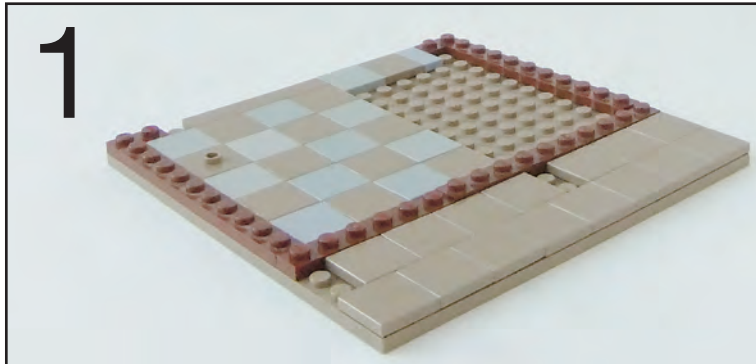
YOU'RE WELCOME. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE HOW I MAKE A BUILDING?

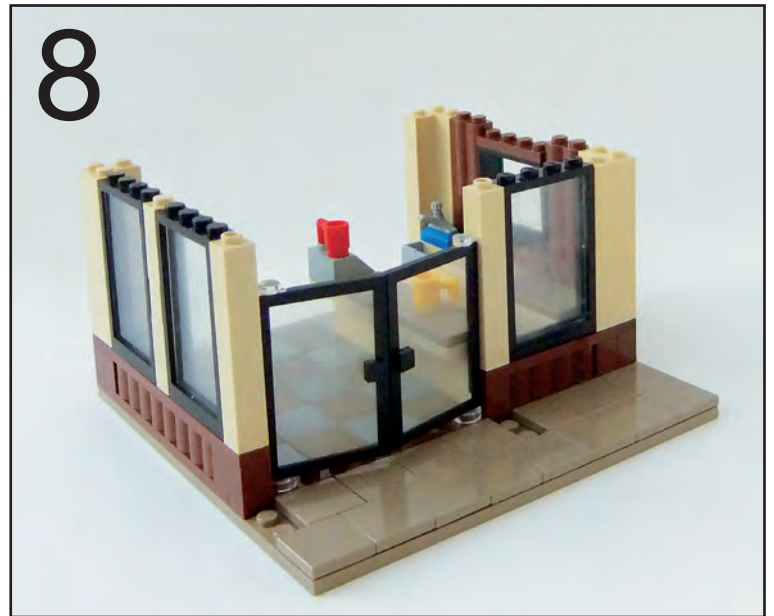
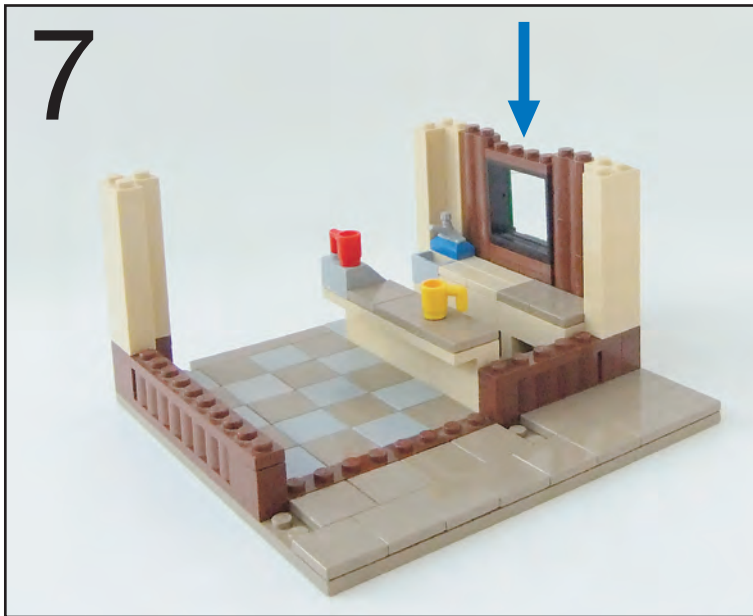
SURE! HOW ABOUT THE COFFEE SHOP I SAW ON THE CORNER?



CERTAINLY! THIS IS A GREAT EXAMPLE OF HOW TO BUILD A SMALL SHOP. IT'S A COFFEE SHOP, BUT YOU CAN CREATE ANY KIND OF SHOP YOU'D LIKE. MAYBE A CANDY SHOP FILLED WITH CANDY!

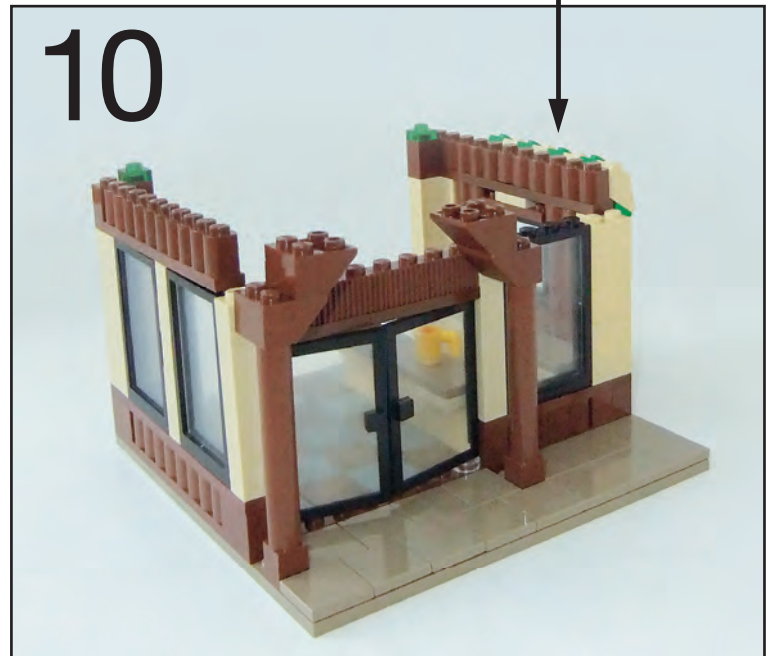
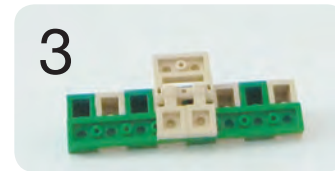
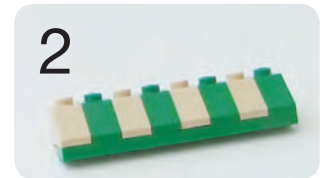
Coffee Shop





Building Tip

The sides of this building and some of the slopes on this model are unstable until locked in place.



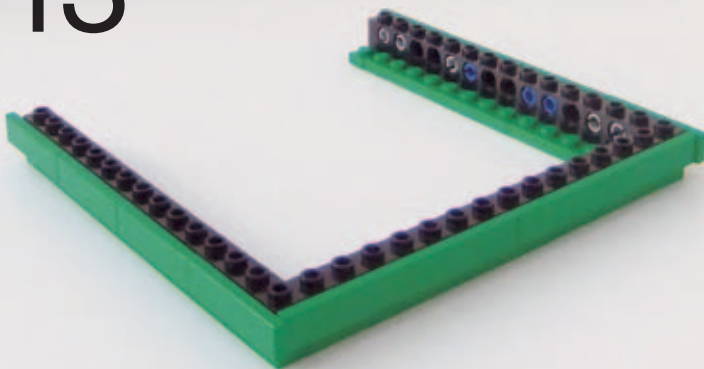
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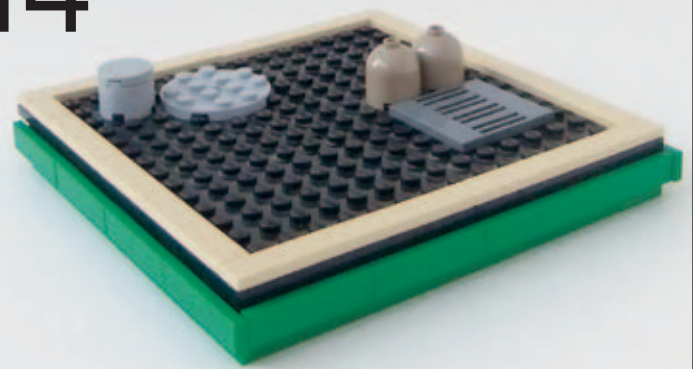
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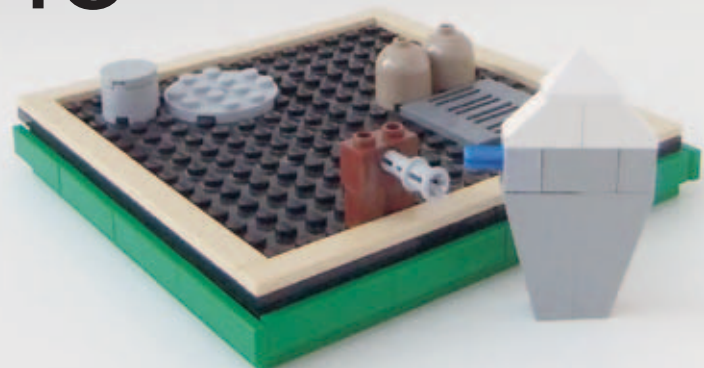
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BUILDING JOURNAL

Craig has a way of subtly changing a few details to make each of his buildings unique and iconic. The window styles, the colors, and the sign outside say that this is a coffee shop. I have to remember how important these details are!

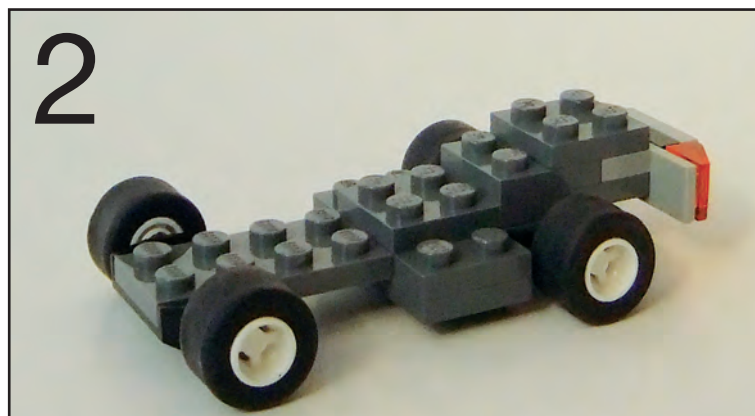
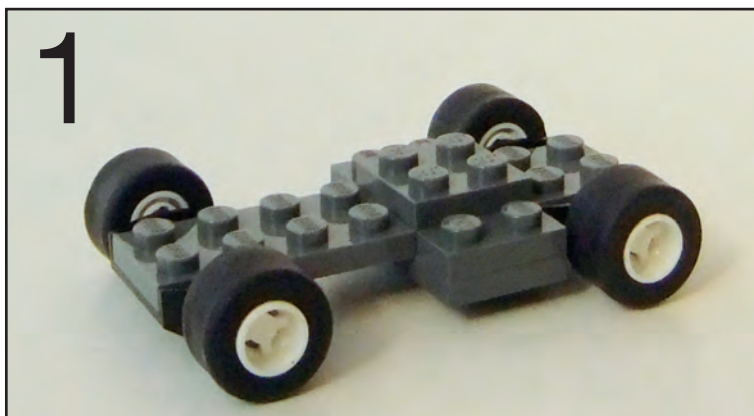


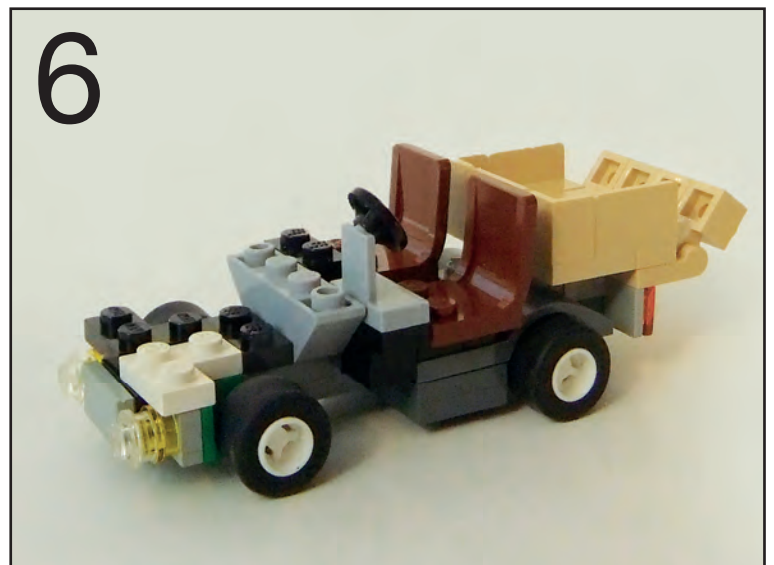
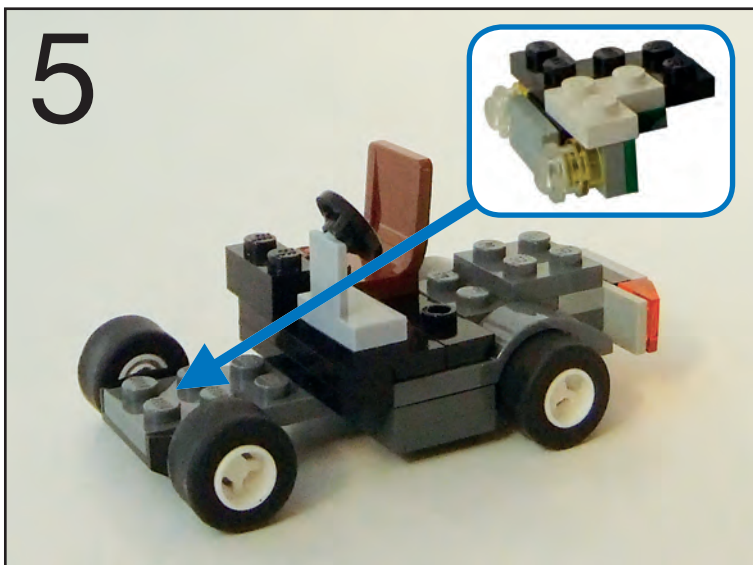
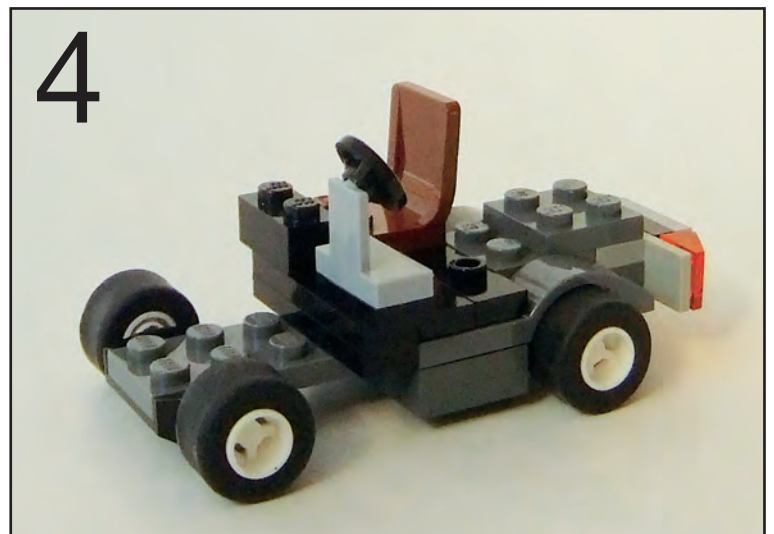
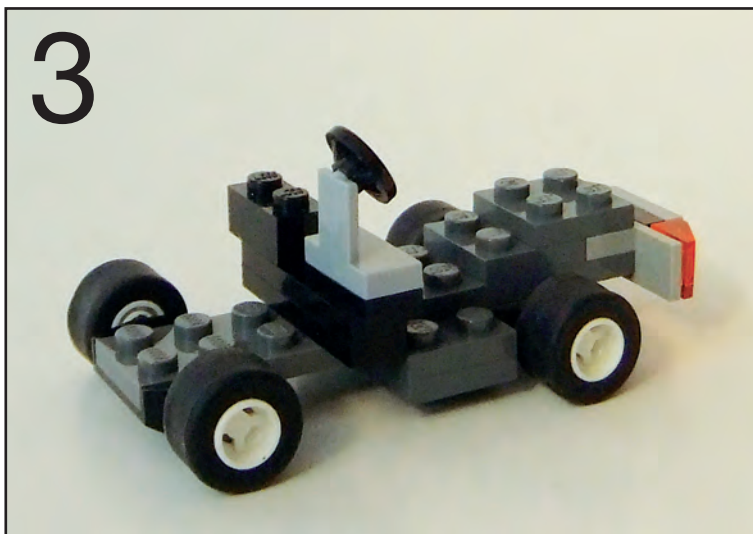
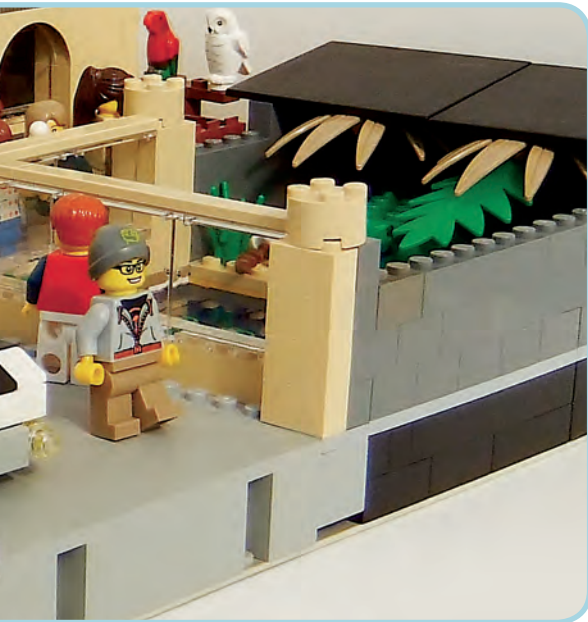


Zoo Buggy

BUILDING JOURNAL

Tire choice is important for vehicles. Use smooth tires for racing cars and electric vehicles like Craig's Zoo Buggy.

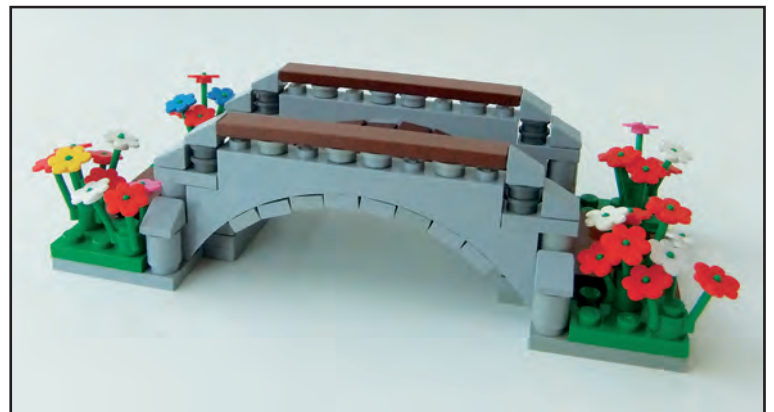


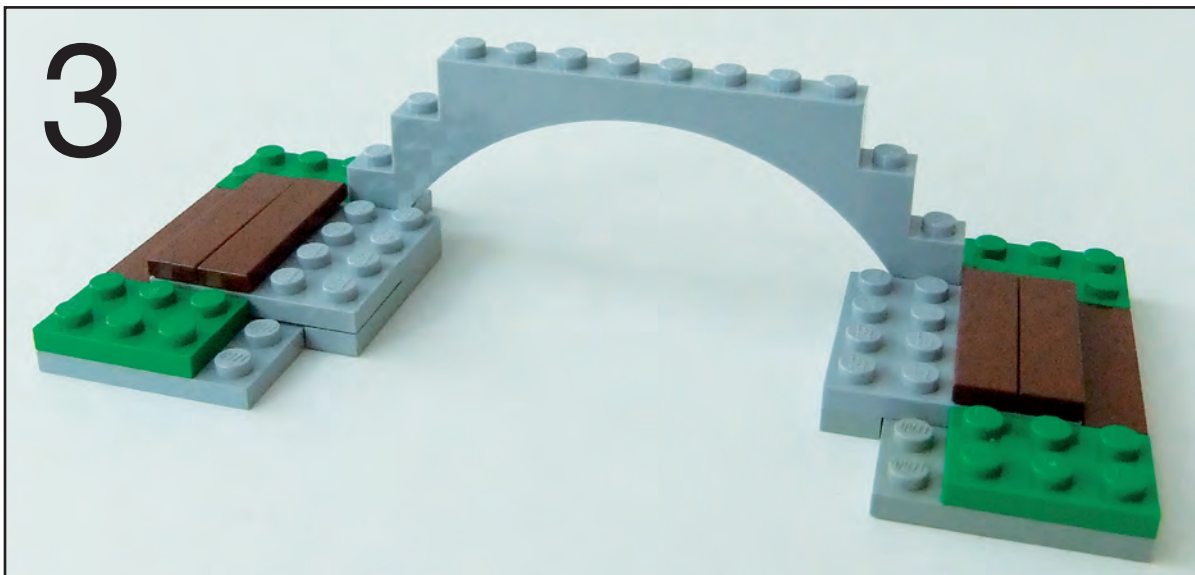
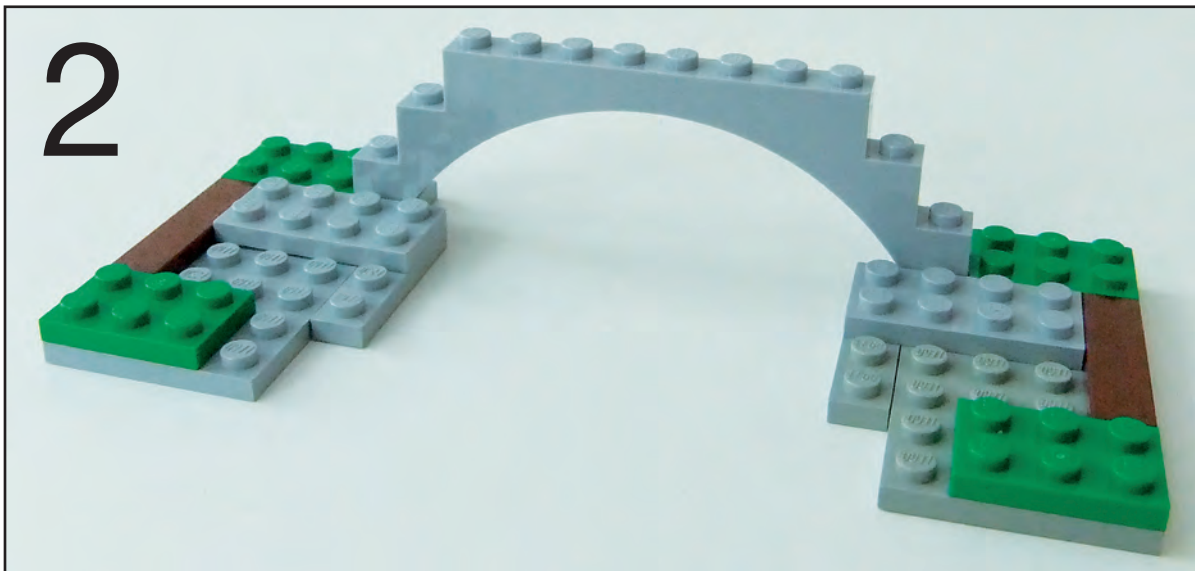
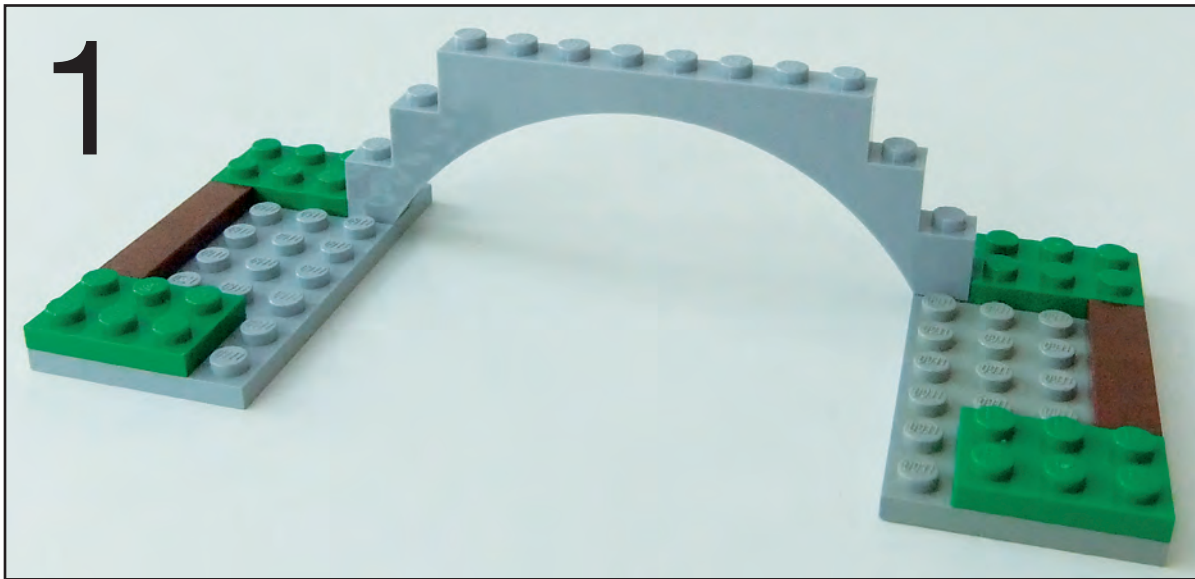


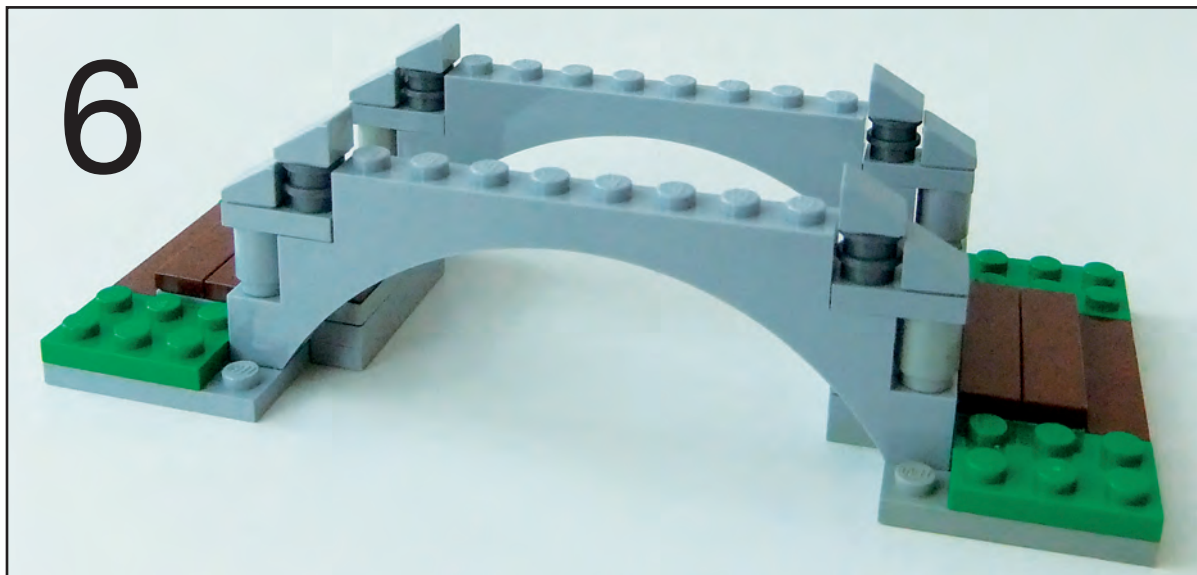
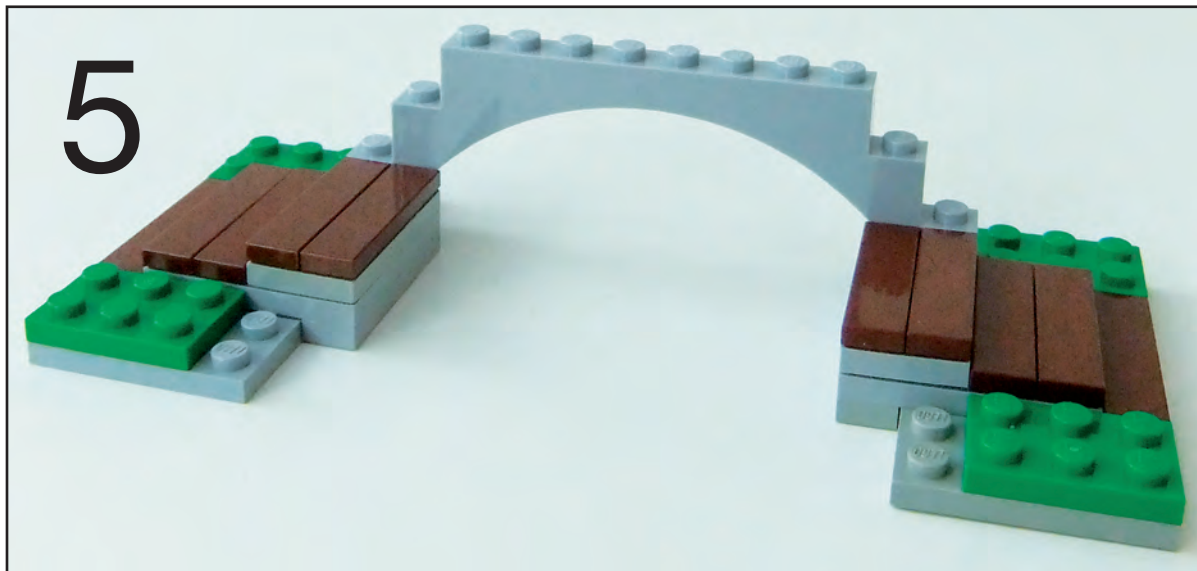


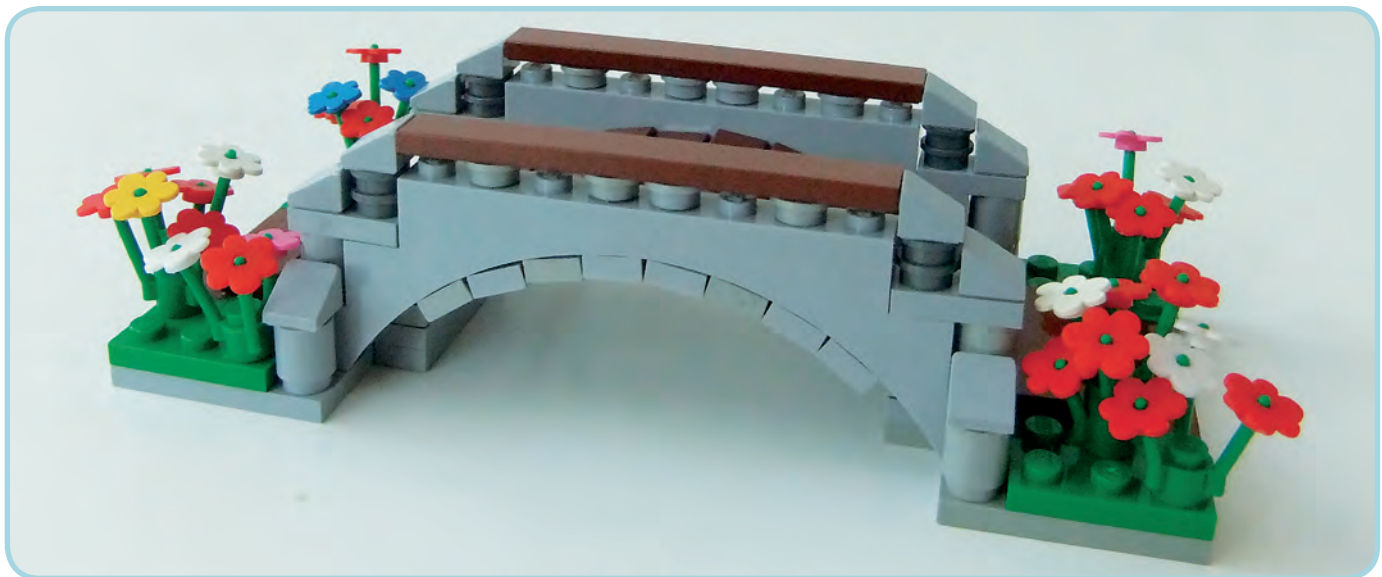
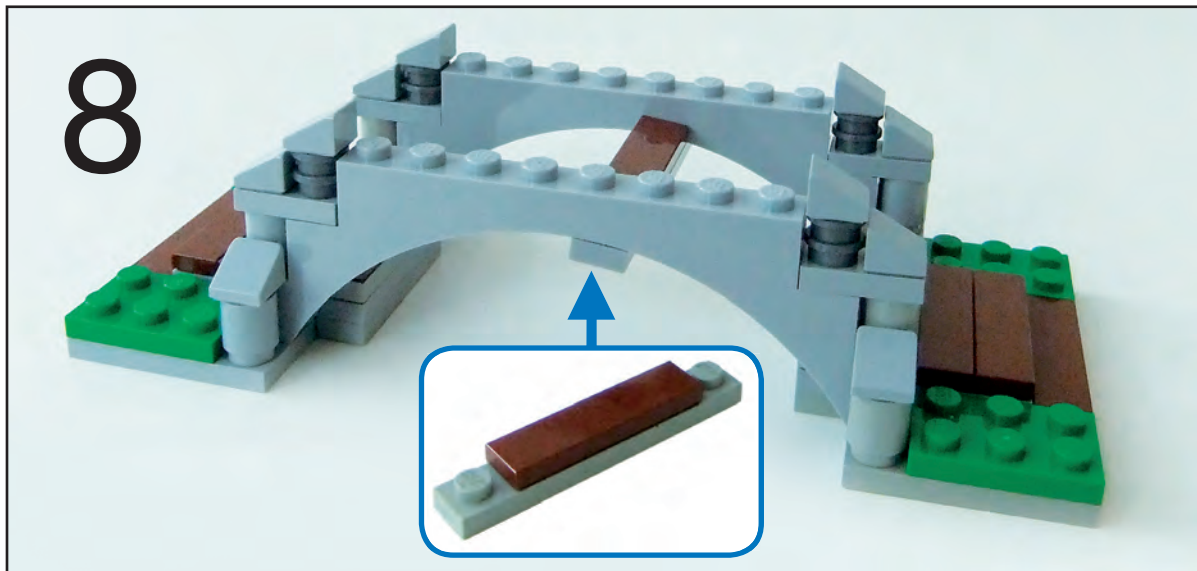
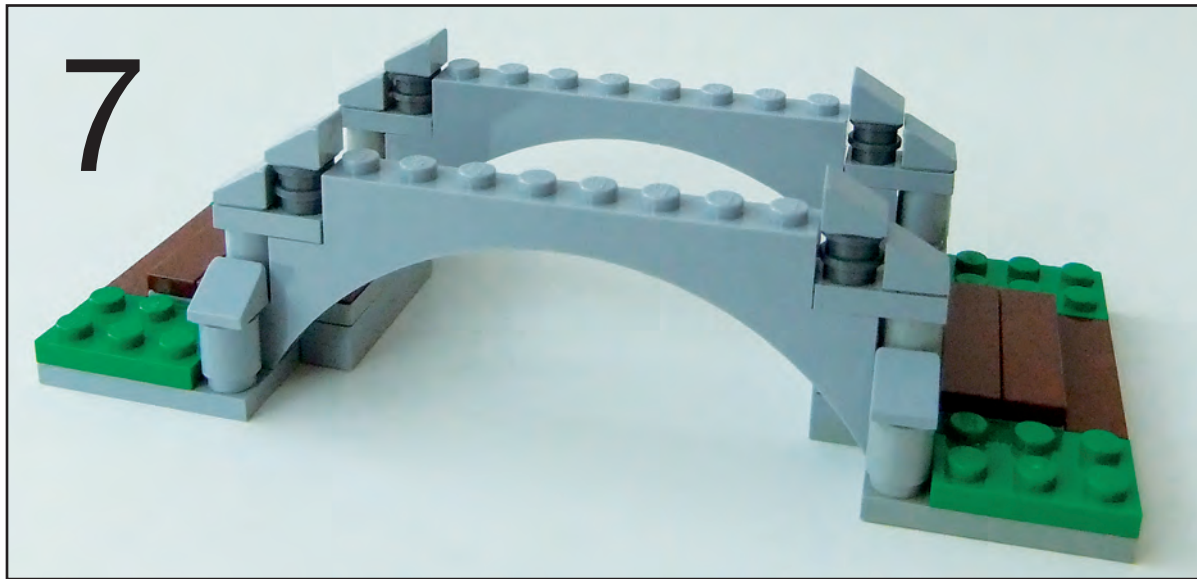
THIS BRIDGE IS ANOTHER
SMALL MODEL THAT YOU
CAN ADD TO ANY SCENE.

Bridge











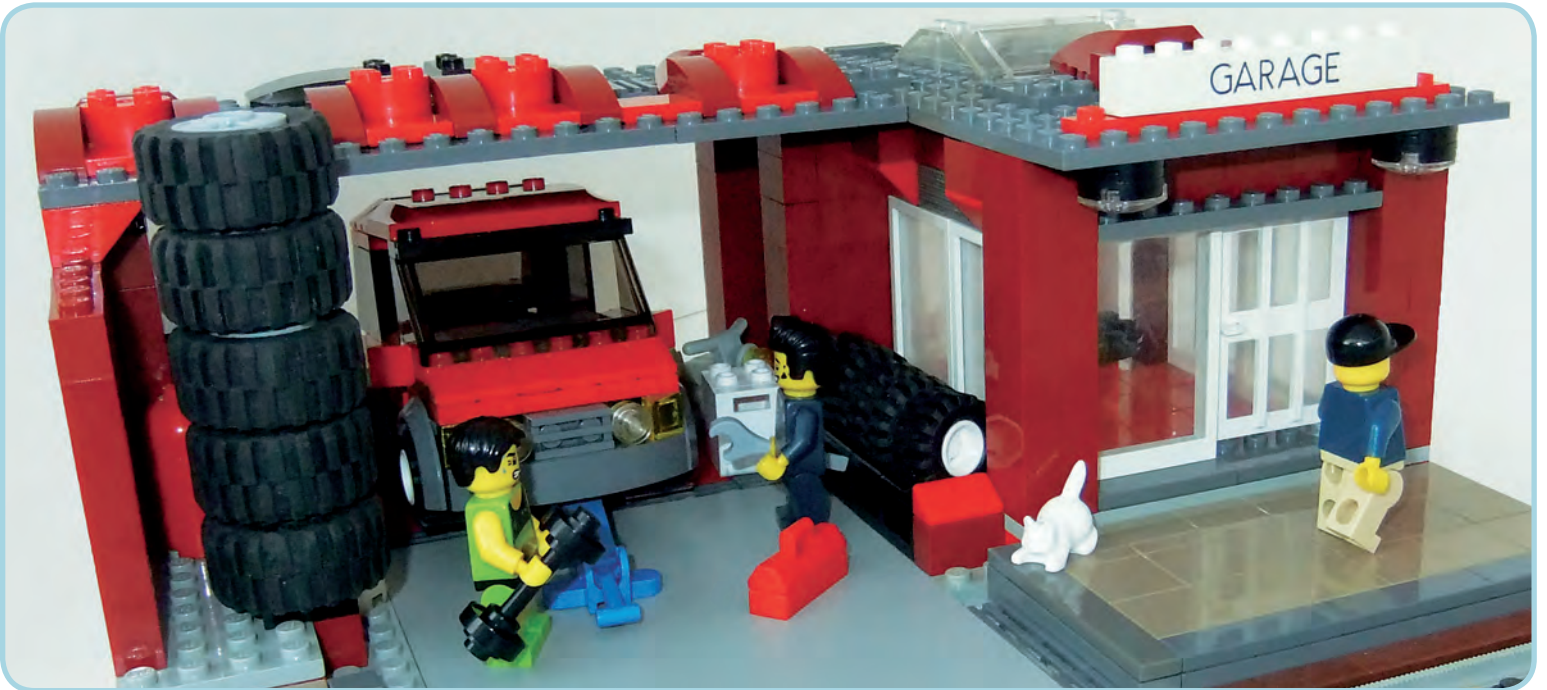
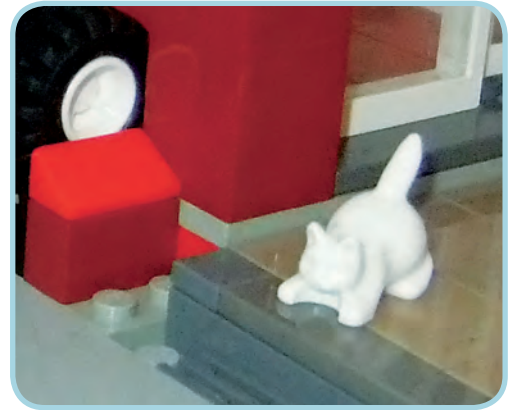


HERE'S A HOUSE. WITH JUST A FEW CHANGES TO THE WINDOWS AND DOORS—AND A DIFFERENT COLOR SCHEME—THIS COULD BE A BAKERY OR A CAFÉ.





OF COURSE, EVERY TOWN NEEDS A GARAGE, AND THIS ONE HAS PLENTY OF VEHICLES TO BE SERVICED. WATCH OUT FOR THE CAT, THOUGH!







BY CHANGING COLORS AND
ADDING A FEW NEW DETAILS,
LIKE A LIGHT BAR OR
SPOTLIGHTS, YOU CAN TURN
ONE CAR DESIGN INTO MANY!





WOW, CRAIG! THANKS FOR SHOWING ME HOW TO BUILD SOME OF YOUR BEAUTIFUL LEGO TOWN MODELS. I HAVE SOME GREAT IDEAS NOW!

YOU'RE WELCOME, MEGS. COME BACK AND VISIT ANYTIME. I LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING THE MODELS YOU COME UP WITH.



WILL DO. DO YOU KNOW ANY OTHER CAR BUILDERS? I'D LIKE TO LEARN MORE!



YOU SHOULD VISIT ARE. I'VE HEARD HE MAKES SOME AMAZING CARS.

ALRIGHT! I'M ON MY WAY!

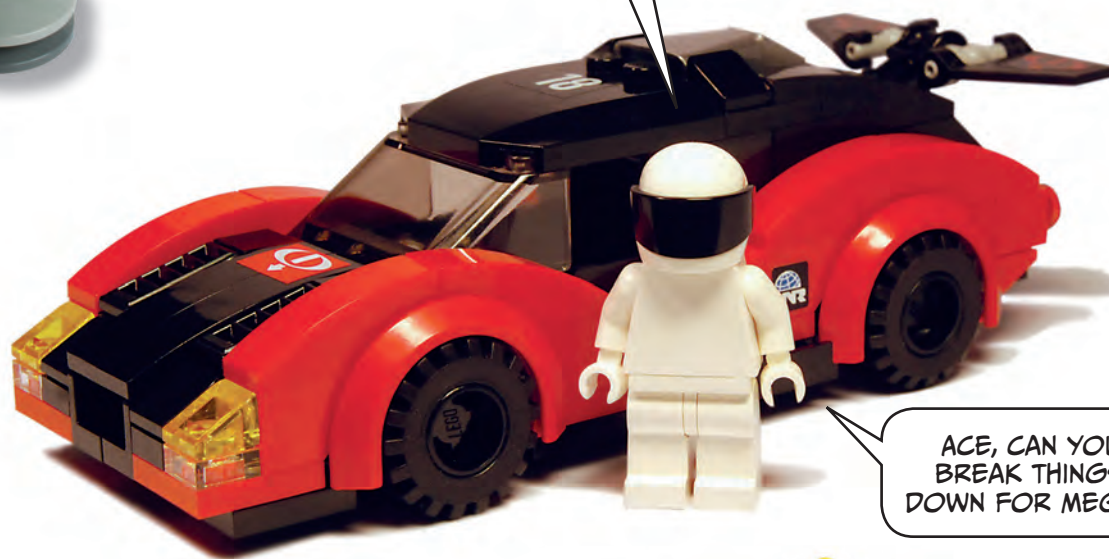


HI THERE! YOU
LOOK A BIT
MYSTERIOUS!

YEAH, I KNOW. IT'S AN
IMAGE THING. I NEVER
REMOVE MY VISOR.

THAT'S ODD. OKAY.
ANYWAY...WHAT KIND
OF CAR IS THAT?

THIS IS TOP-SECRET TECHNOLOGY, BUT COME
MEET MY FRIEND ACE OF SPADES. (WE CALL
HIM THAT BECAUSE HE SELLS SHOVELS.) HE CAN
SHOW YOU HOW TO BUILD HIS ACE OF SPADES
TRUCK. MAYBE YOU'LL LEARN A TRICK OR TWO
THAT WILL HELP YOU BUILD MY CAR.



ACE, CAN YOU
BREAK THINGS
DOWN FOR MEGS?



SURE. HERE
WE GO!

Hot Rods and Cool Rides



Are J. Heiseldal

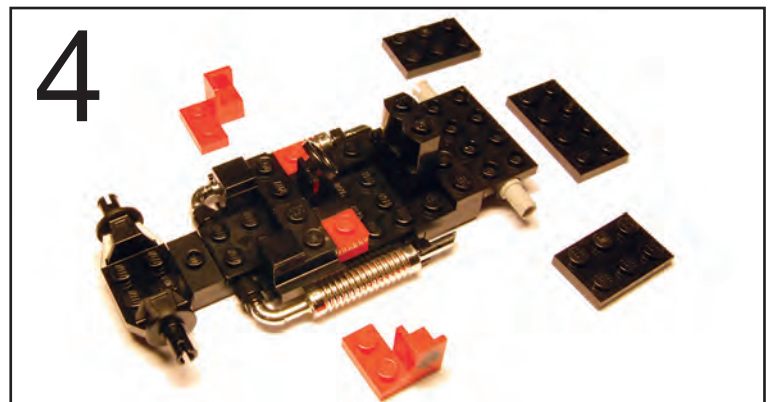
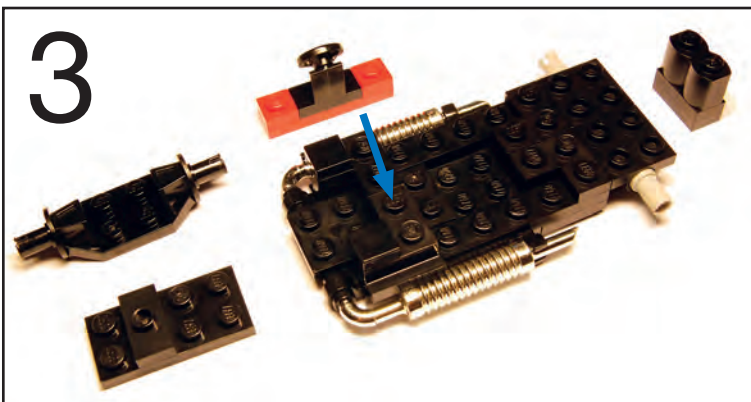
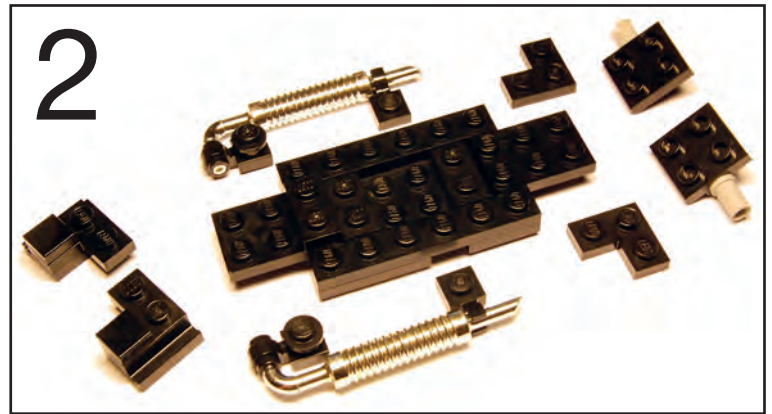
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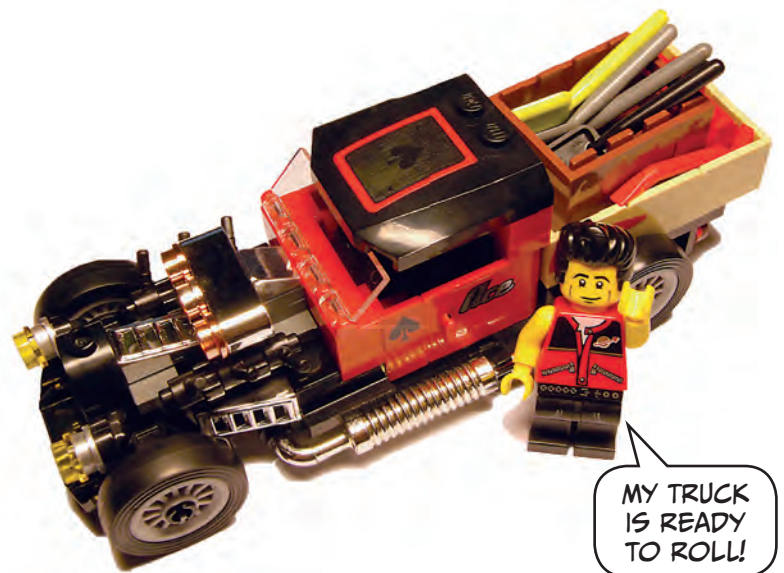
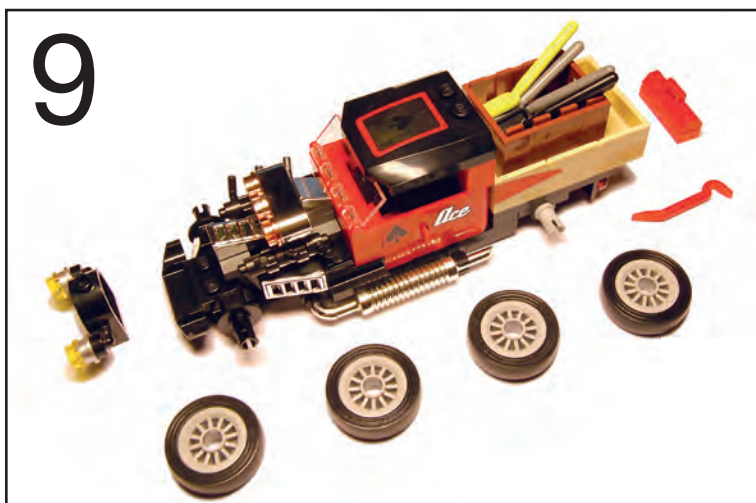
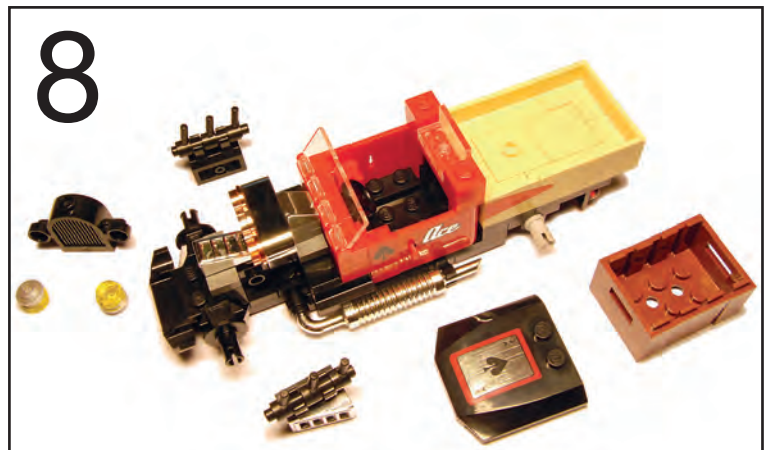
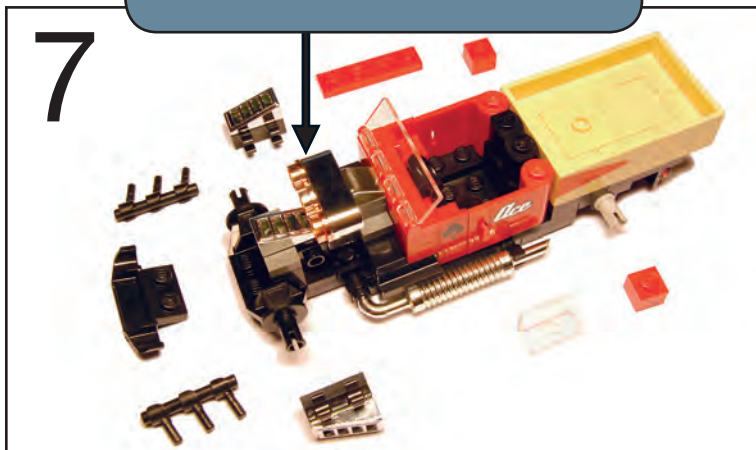
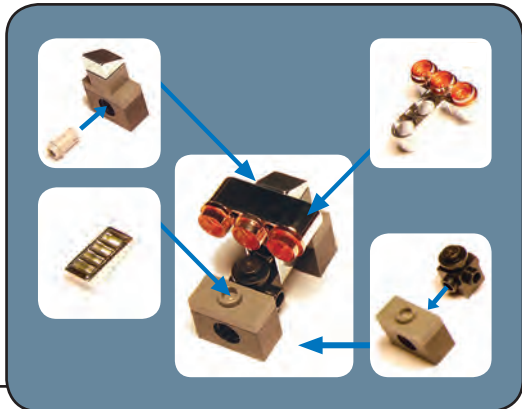
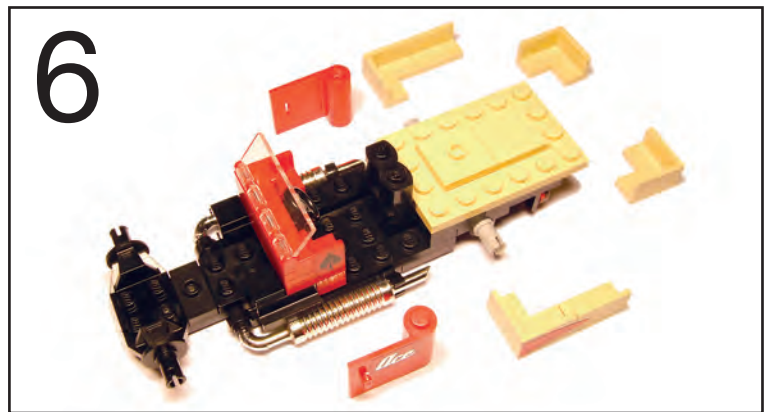
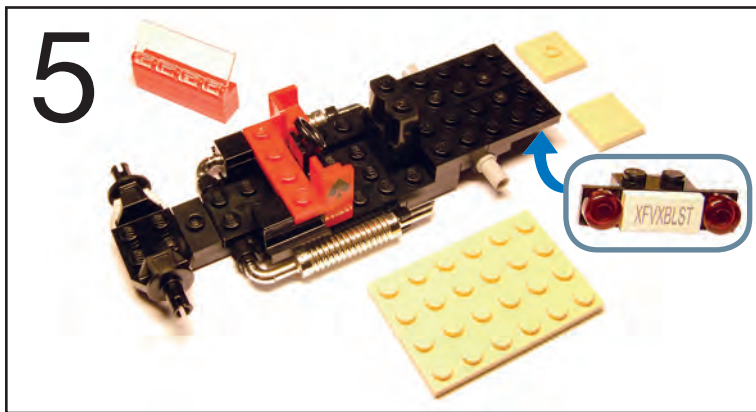
Profession: TV Journalist

Nationality: Norwegian

Website: www.flickr.com/photos/legolago/

Ace of Spades







Building Tip

You can add more character to your vehicles by decorating them with stickers, like the ones on the Ace of Spades truck.



LET ME SHOW YOU SOME OTHER SWEET RIDES.

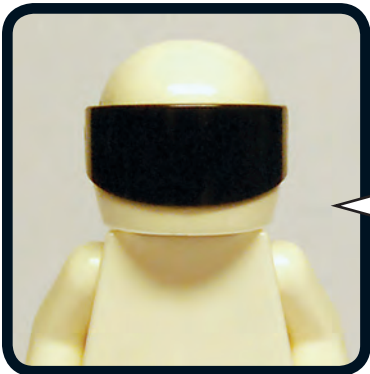


BUILDING JOURNAL

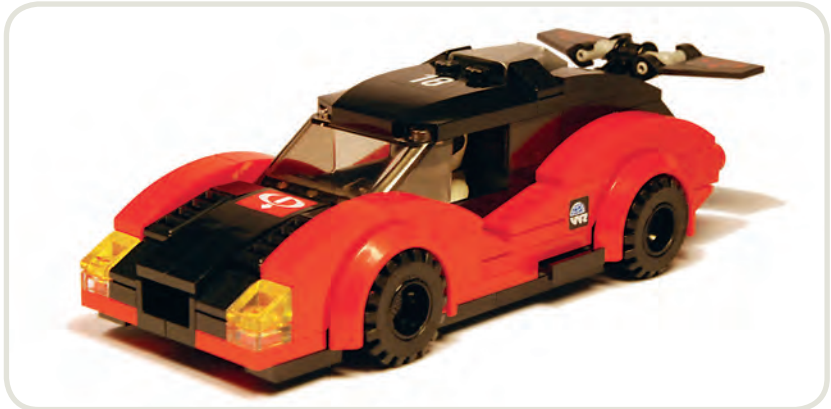
Are's cars have lots of engine details. Before building my car, I think I'll put aside a few small elements and see if I can build an engine block that will fit in my design. Hot rods tend to have exposed engines so you can see their craftsmanship. Sports cars cover their engines with smooth, curved hoods so they'll go faster!







NICE WHEELS, ACE.
HERE ARE SOME
OF MY SUPERCARS
READY TO RACE.



WHOA! WHAT'S THAT
RUMBLING SOUND?!

From Below!





OH, SORRY, DID WE DISTURB YOU? WE WERE JUST ON OUR WAY TO HELP ROUND UP SOME ESCAPED ROCK MONSTERS!

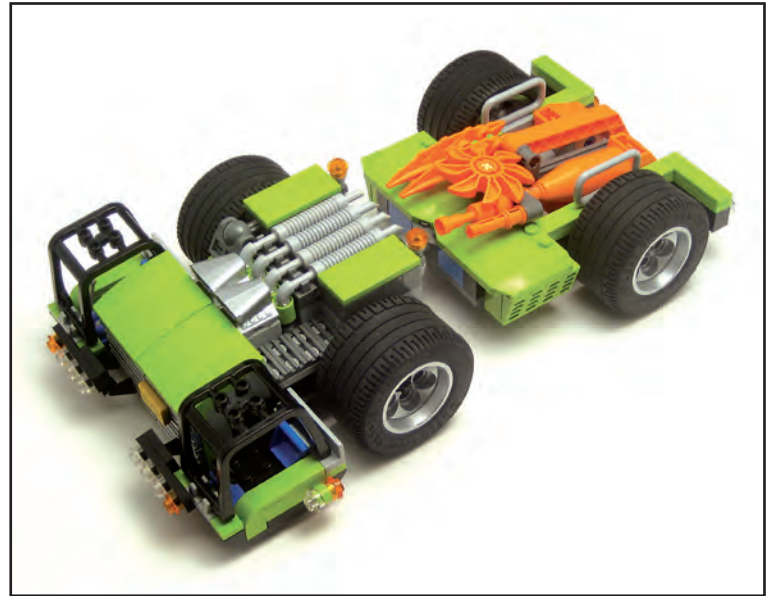
YOUR EQUIPMENT IS AMAZING. DO YOU MIND SHOWING ME HOW YOU BUILT IT?

YES, THEY'RE SOME SERIOUS MACHINES! I'LL SHOW YOU HOW I BUILT THIS ONE BEHIND ME.



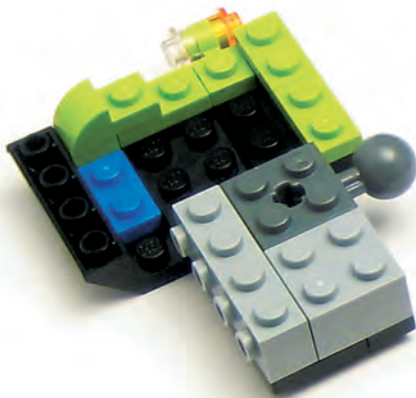


FAIR WARNING, BUILDING THE JACKKNIFE IS NOT EASY. LET'S START BY BUILDING THESE FOUR SMALL MODULES.

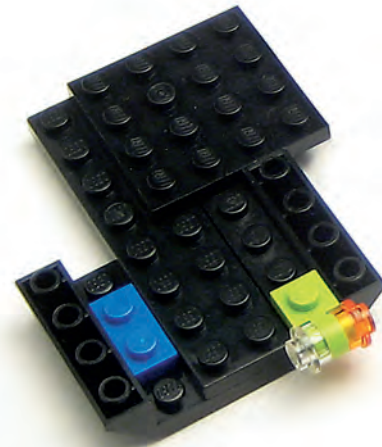


Jackknife

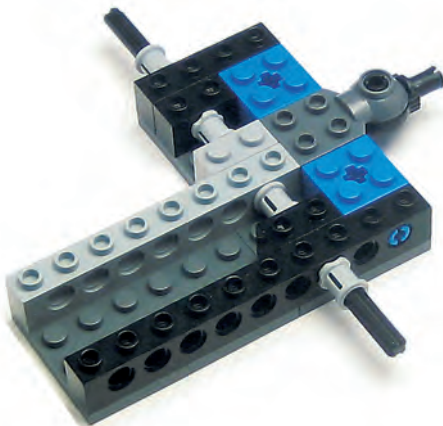
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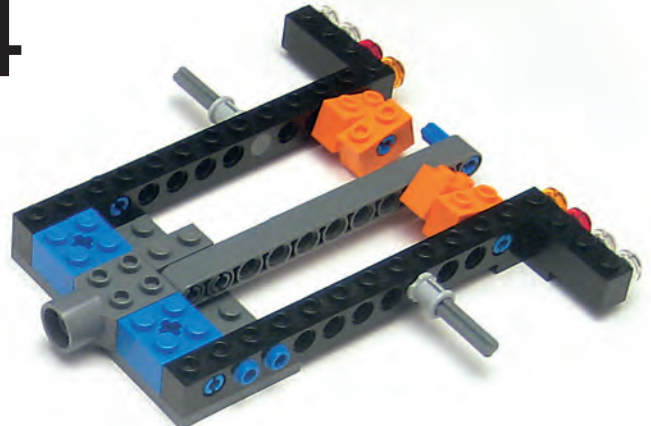
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3



4





Moritz Nolting

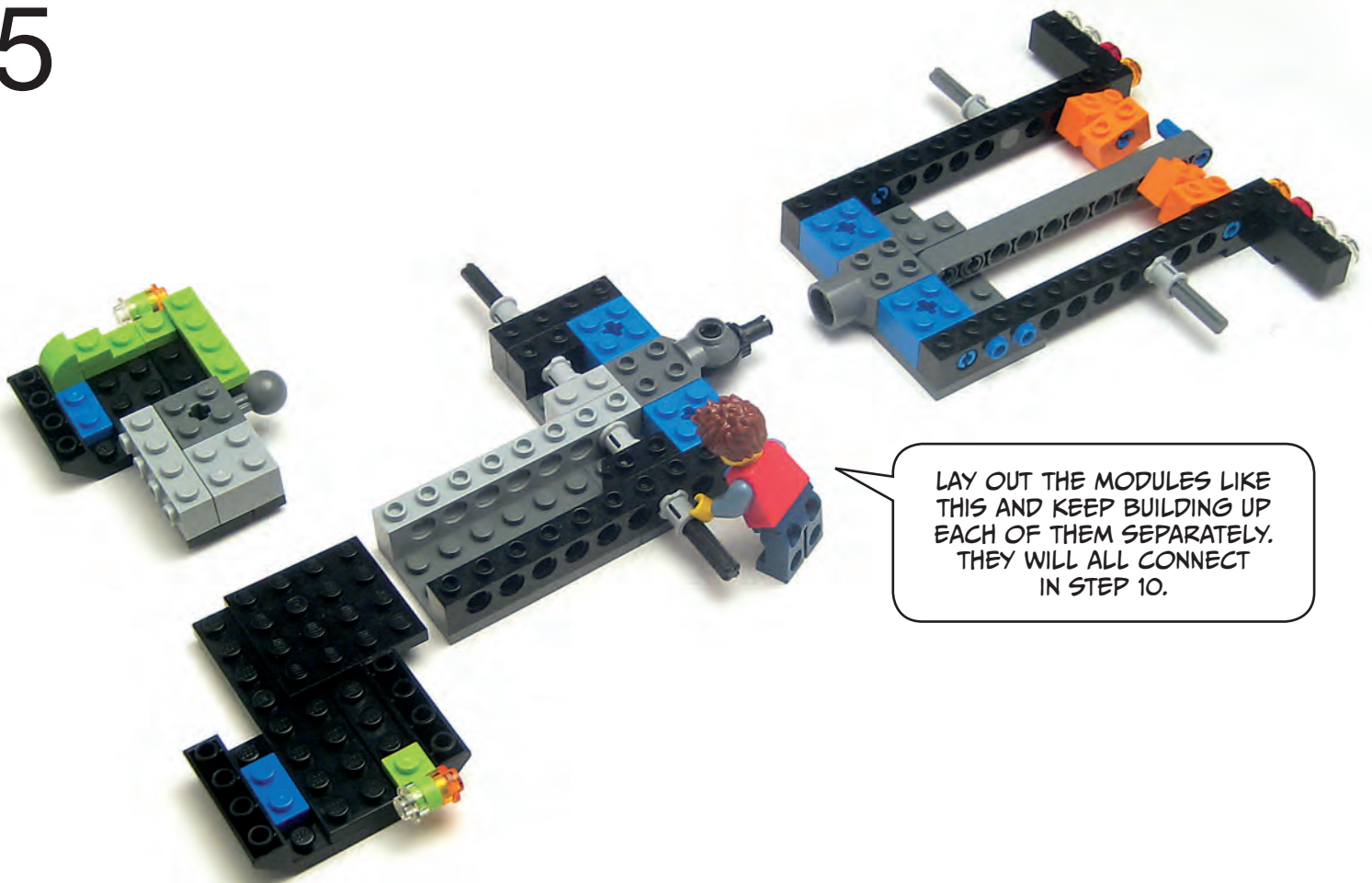
Nickname: nolnet

Profession: Creative Director

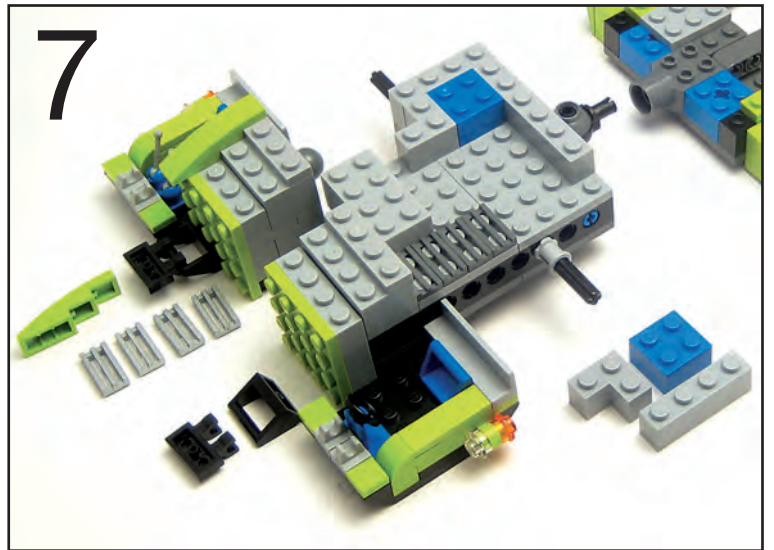
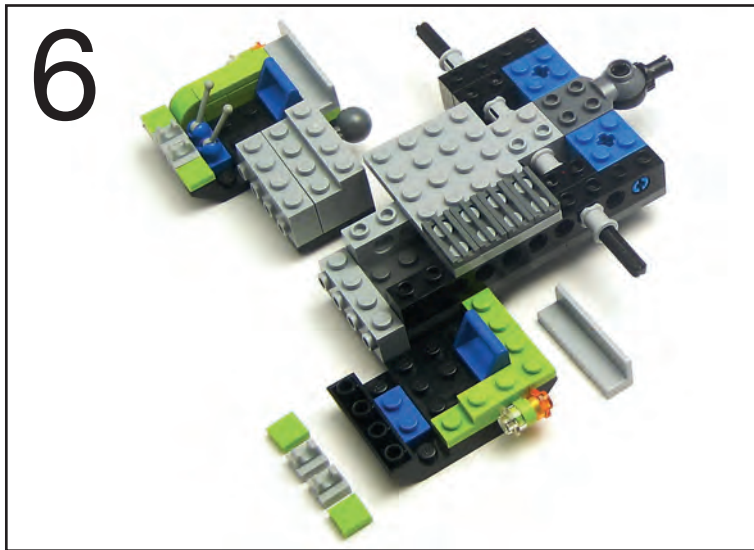
Nationality: German

Website: www.flickr.com/photos/nolnet/

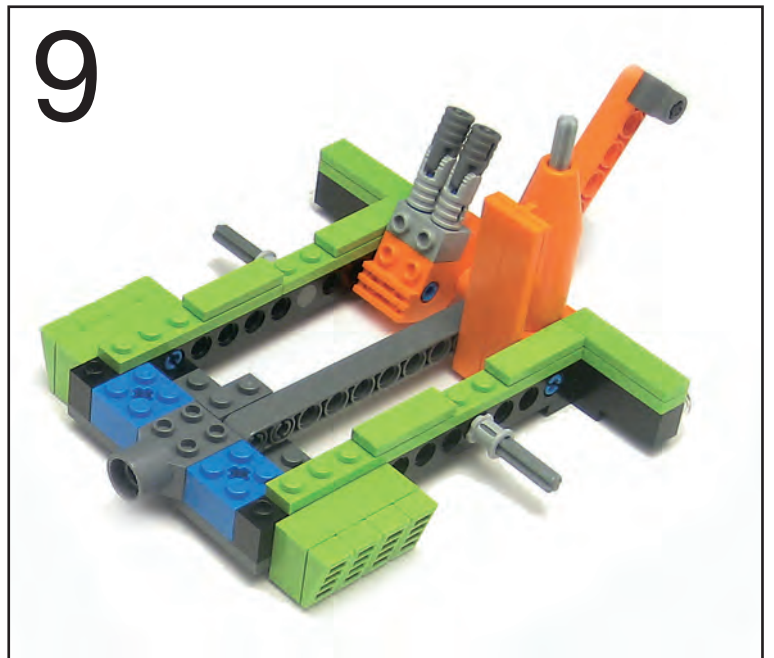
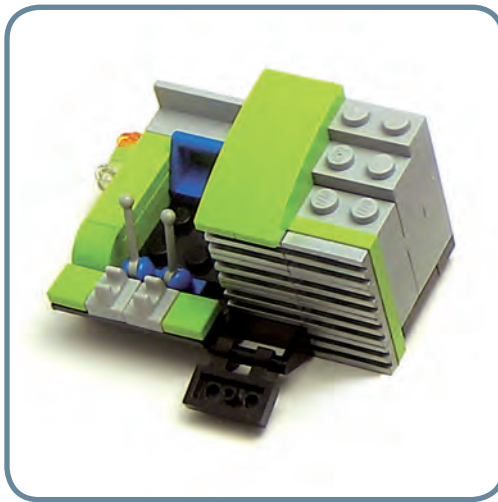
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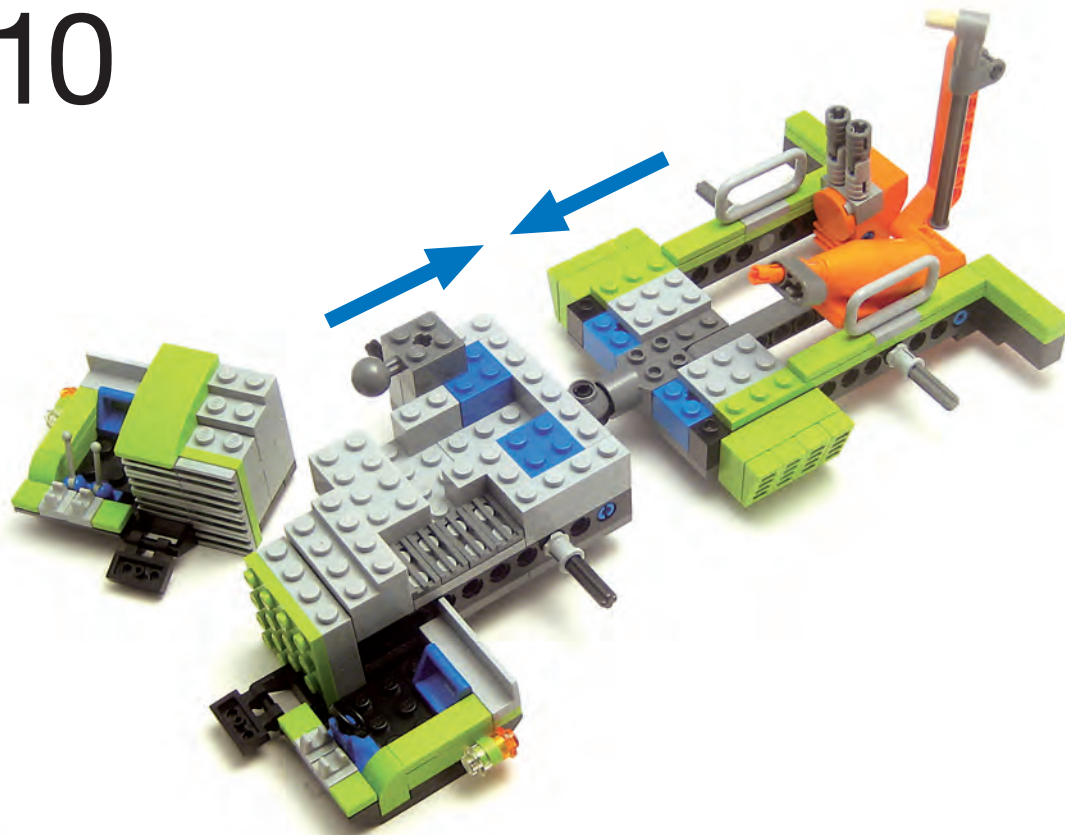
LAY OUT THE MODULES LIKE THIS AND KEEP BUILDING UP EACH OF THEM SEPARATELY. THEY WILL ALL CONNECT IN STEP 10.



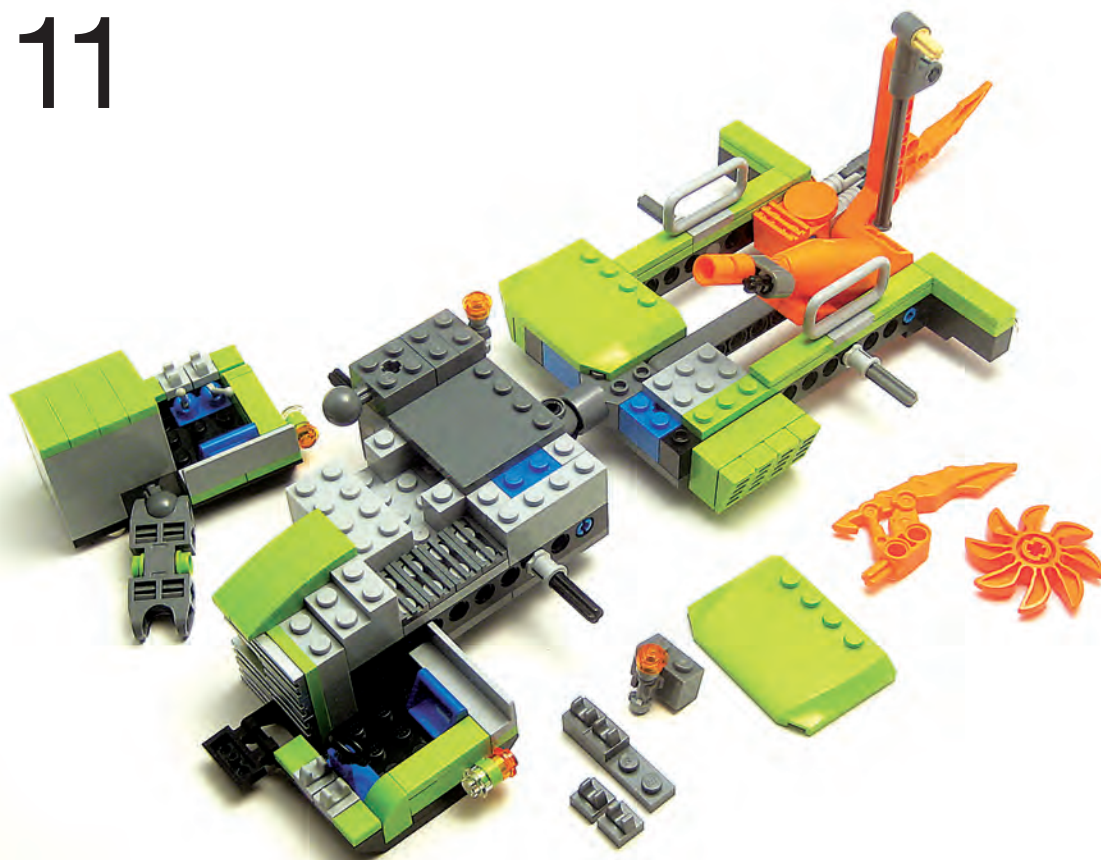
EVEN THOUGH WE BUILT THESE MODULES IN STEP 7, THEY AREN'T ATTACHED TO THE JACKKNIFE UNTIL LATER.



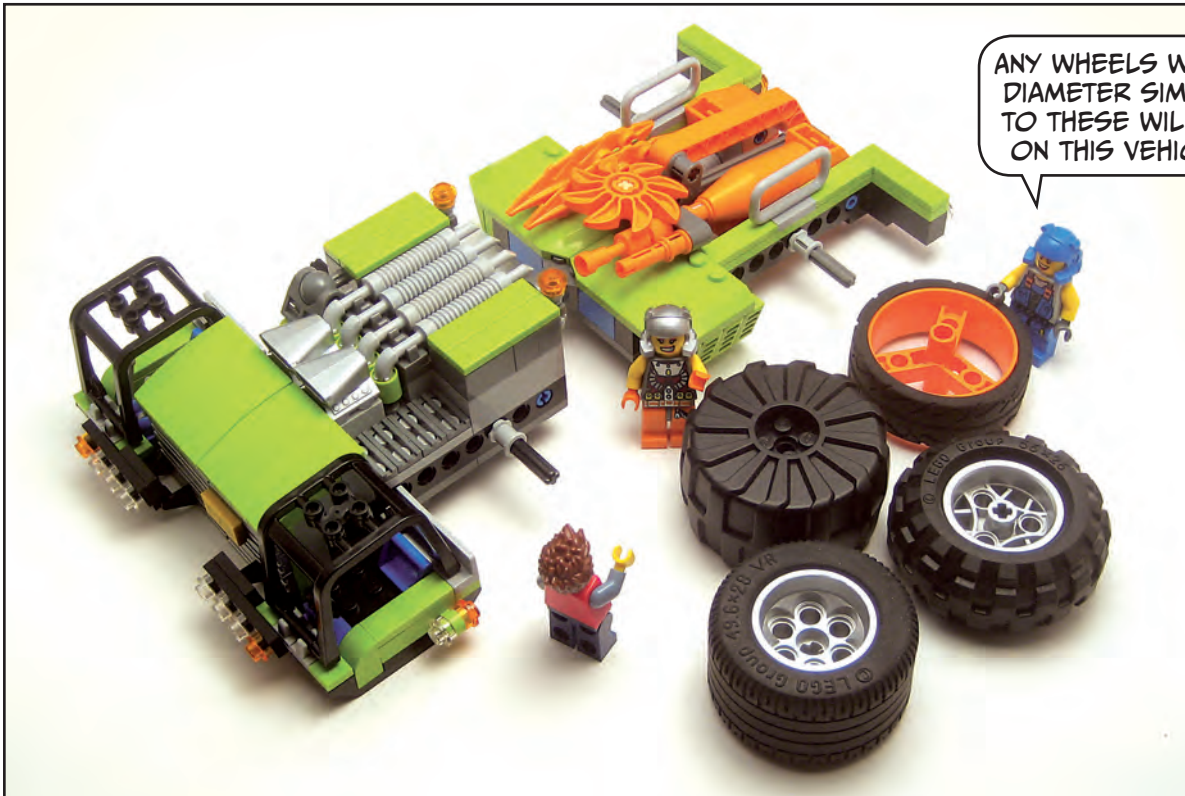
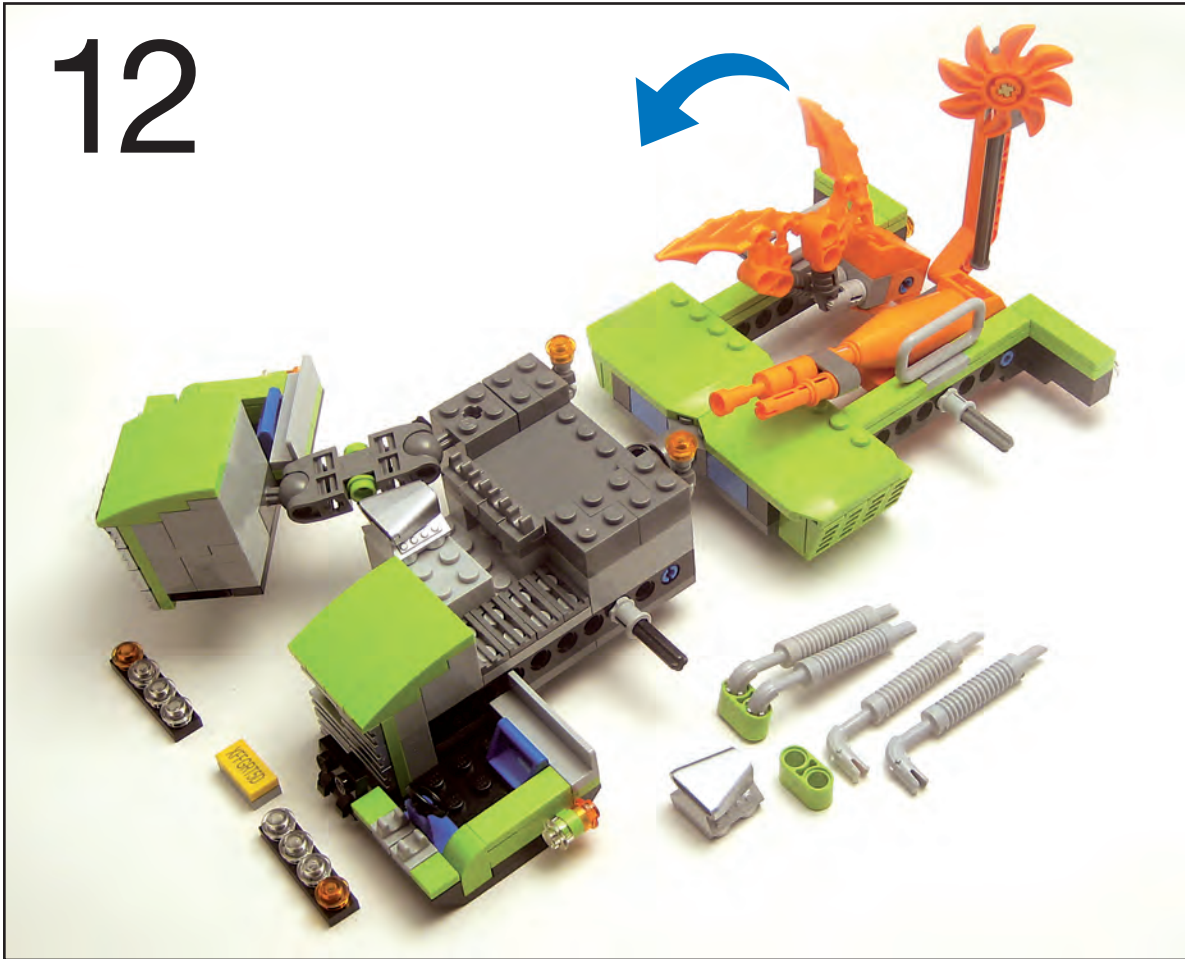
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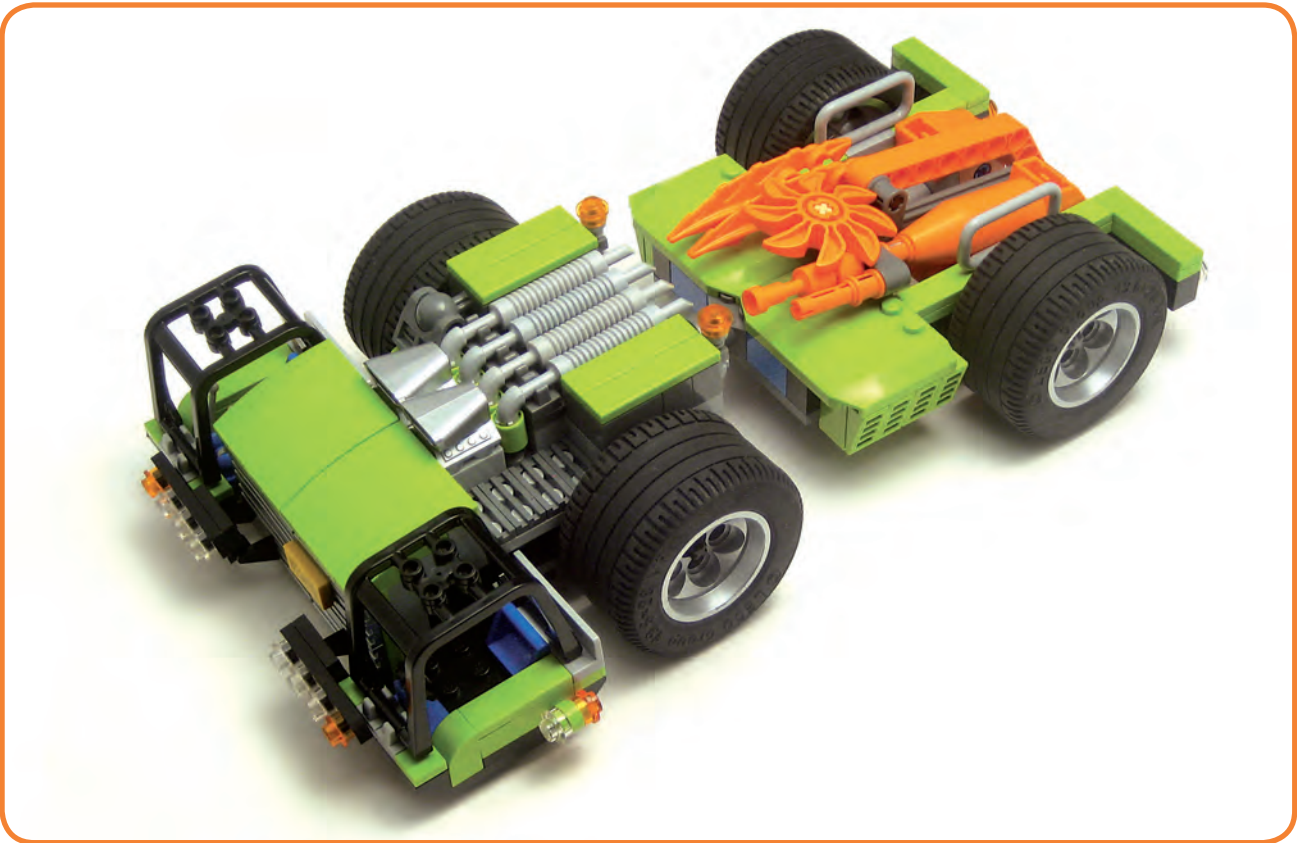


11



12





THE JACKKNIFE IS LOADED WITH FUNCTIONS FOR CRUSHING, CUTTING, SCRAPING, AND MELTING ROCKS—A VERY HANDY PIECE OF EQUIPMENT FOR US MINERS.



WOW, THAT JACKKNIFE
IS A TOUGH BUILD, BUT
WHAT A GREAT VEHICLE.
THANKS!

NO PROBLEM, MEGS. HERE
ARE SOME OF OUR OTHER
MACHINES. FEEL FREE
TO COPY ANY OF THEM
SHOULD YOU NEED SOME
HEAVY MACHINERY.



BUILDING JOURNAL

Looking at Moritz's mining equipment, I can see that all of the machines have some key details in common: protective roll cages, big industrial-looking engines, lots of lights, and, of course, bright colors. Bright colors make these big, dangerous vehicles easy to see. I should remember these details when I'm building heavy equipment.





HERE IS WHERE WE
HOUSE THE CAPTURED
ROCK MONSTERS.



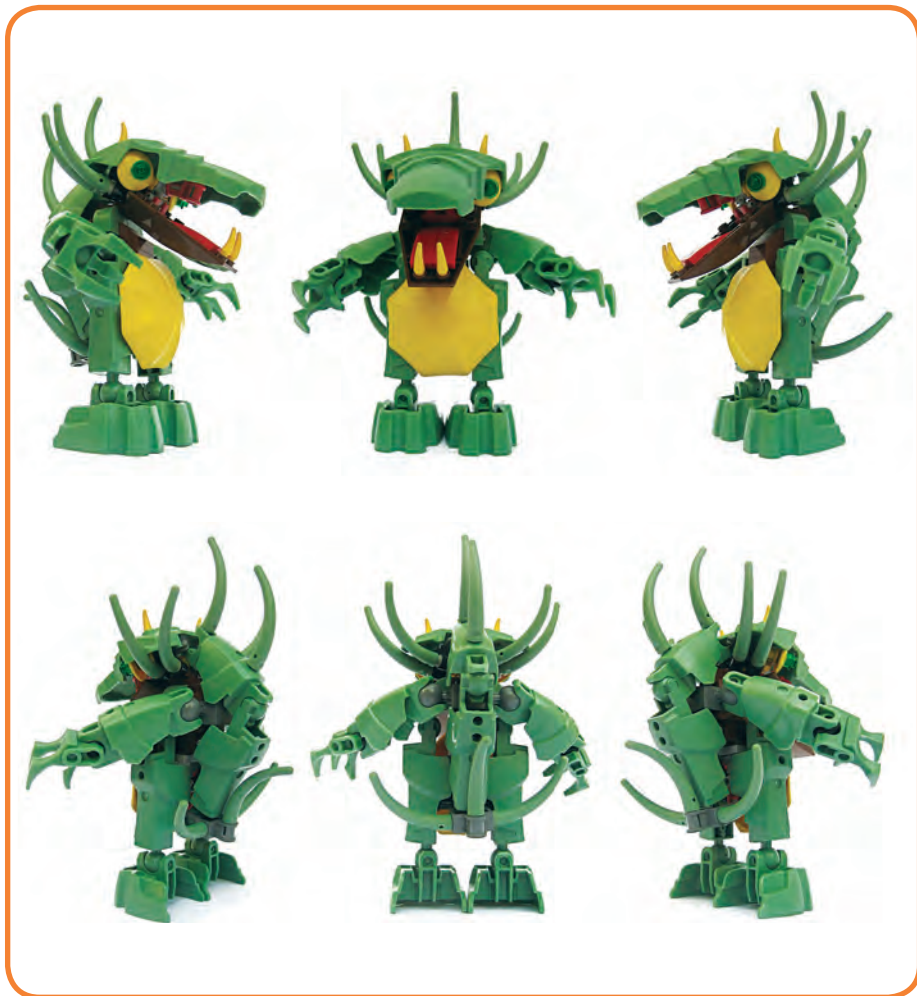
AWW, IT LOOKS THEY
HAVE EVERYTHING THEY
NEED: FOOD, WATER, AND
A NICE HOUSE, TOO.



HEHE. YES, THE PROBLEM IS THEY GET IN OUR WAY
ALL THE TIME! THIS GREEN GUY IS BRUTUS. HE IS A
ROCK DRAGON, AND HE HELPS US KEEP THE WILD
ROCK MONSTERS IN LINE. AS LONG AS WE GIVE
HIM A FEW CRYSTALS, BRUTUS IS HAPPY.

BUILDING JOURNAL

Moritz showed me how a few
slopes and some basic LEGO
bricks can make a nice little
house for a pet.





WOW, BRUTUS IS
AWESOME!



UH-OH, MORE ROCK
MONSTERS ON THE
LOOSE! STOP EATING ALL
OUR CRYSTALS!



MINE!!!



OH NO! BRUTUS IS
ON AN ENERGY
CRYSTAL RAMPAGE!
TIME TO GO, MEGS!

YIKES! I'M OUTTA
HERE, MORITZ!





COMING THROUGH!

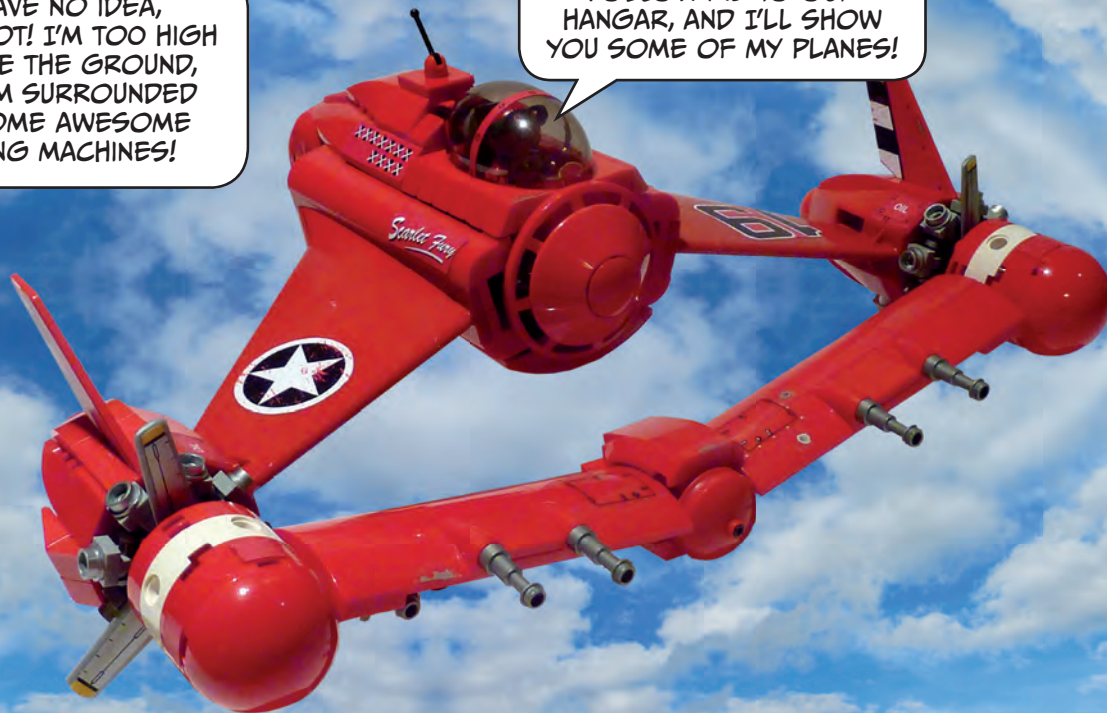
ACK! ACTIVATE
EVASIVE
MANEUVERS!

HEY, WE'RE IN A
RACE HERE!

Megs! My readings show an emergency beam out! What are your coordinates?

I HAVE NO IDEA, BRICKBOT! I'M TOO HIGH TO SEE THE GROUND, BUT I'M SURROUNDED BY SOME AWESOME FLYING MACHINES!

DID YOU SAY AWESOME? YES, I SUPPOSE SO. FOLLOW ME TO OUR HANGAR, AND I'LL SHOW YOU SOME OF MY PLANES!



Skywolf

The Sky's the Limit



Jon Hall

Nickname: jonhall18

Profession: Graphic Designer

Nationality: British

Website: www.flickr.com/photos/25163007@N07/



Gryphon

Scarlet Fury



Viper

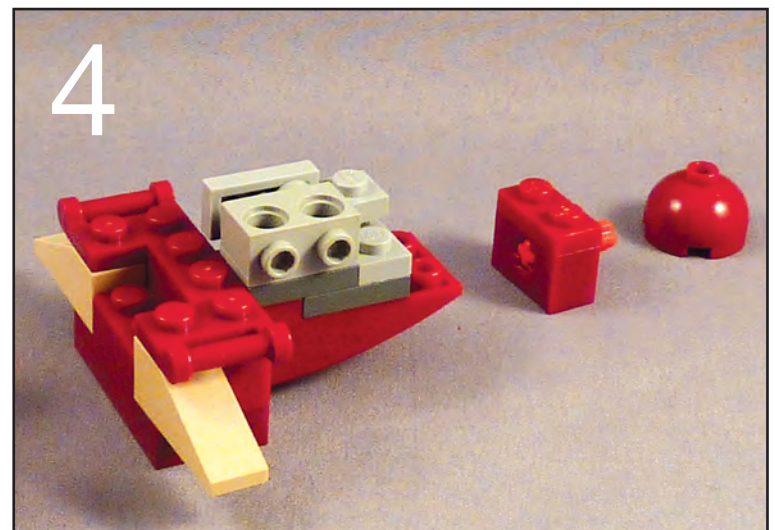
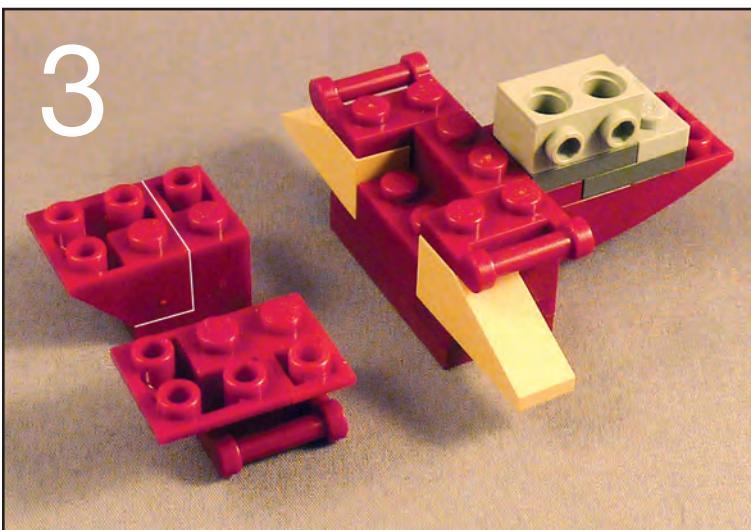
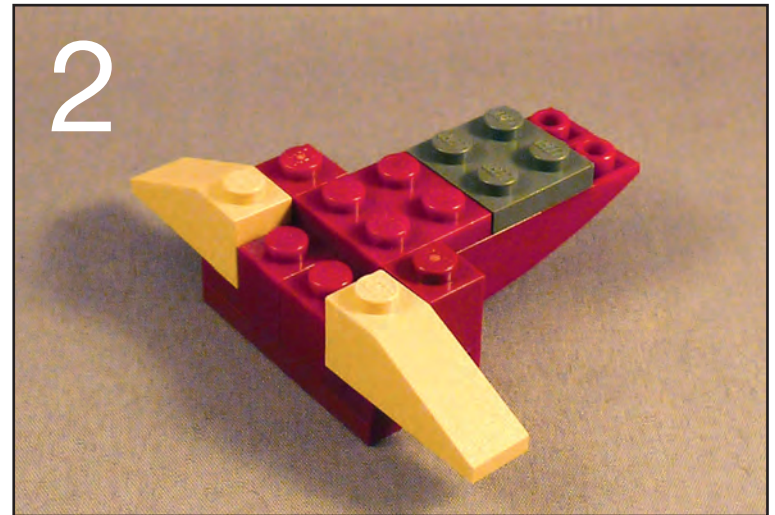
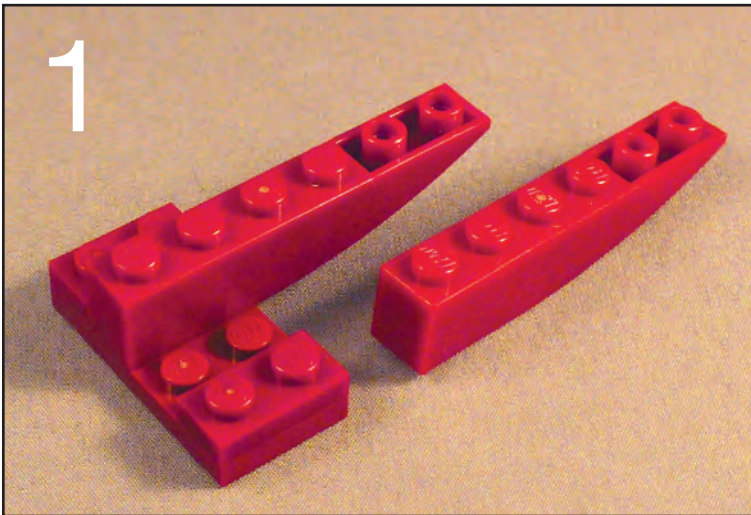
Skyhammer



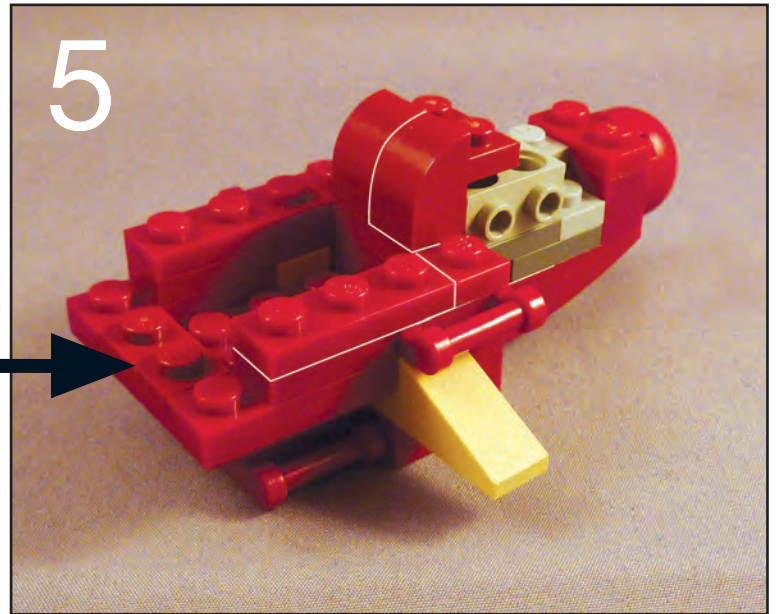
Steel Wind

The Phoenix

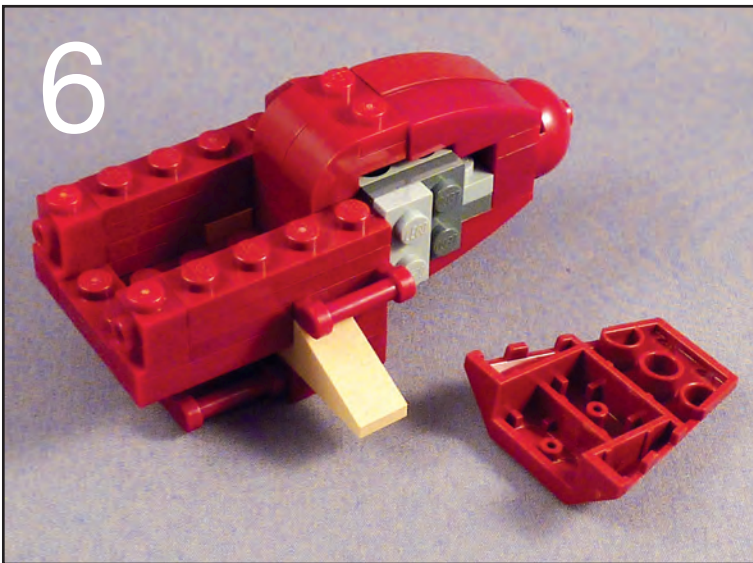
HERE'S ONE OF MY
PLANES: THE *PHOENIX*.
I CAN SHOW YOU HOW TO
BUILD IT, BUT WATCH OUT—
IT'S TRICKY! LET'S START
WITH THE COCKPIT.



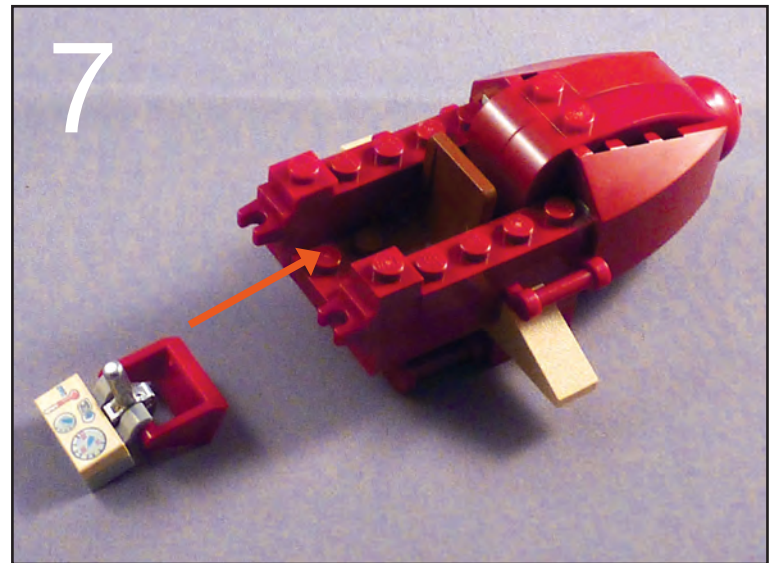
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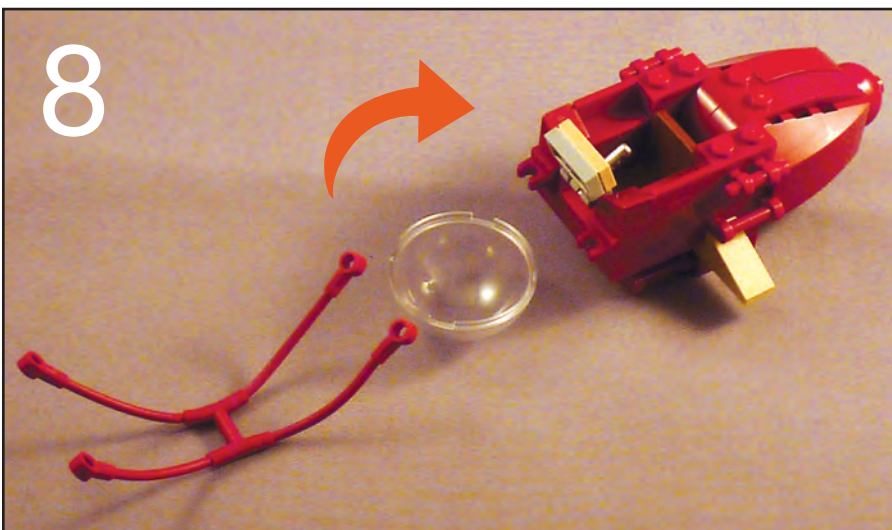
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7



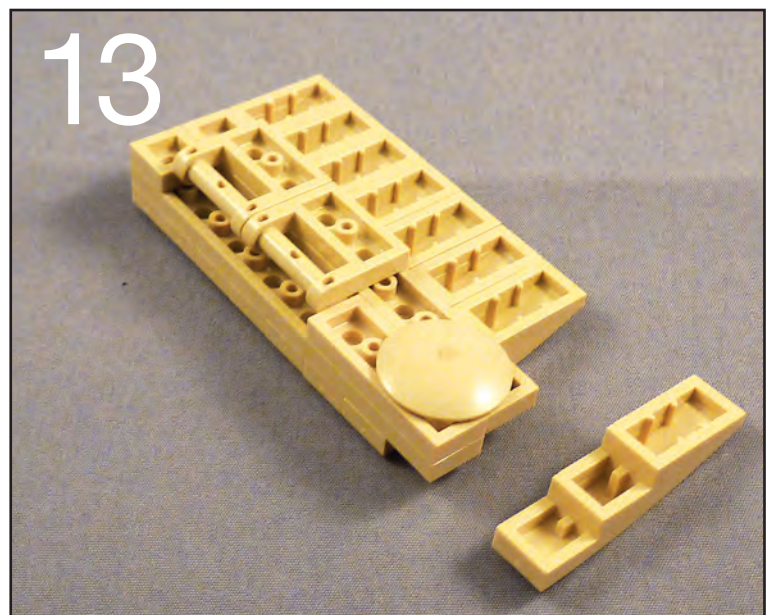
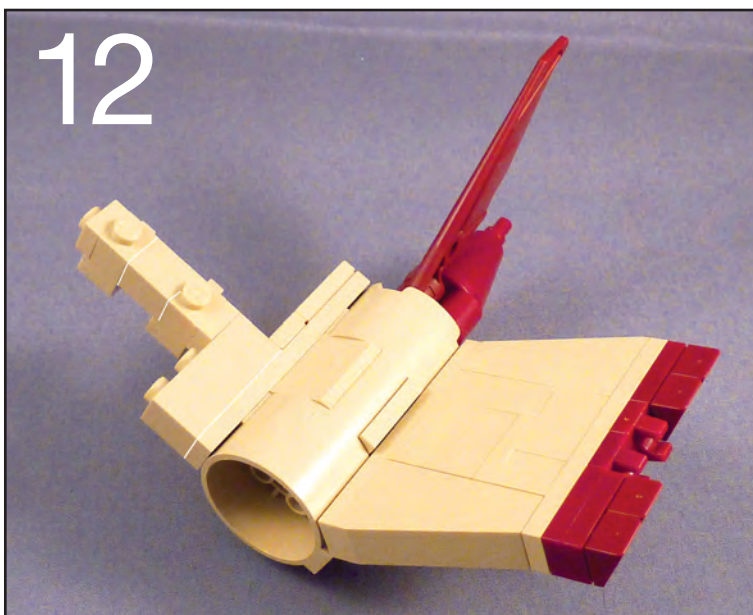
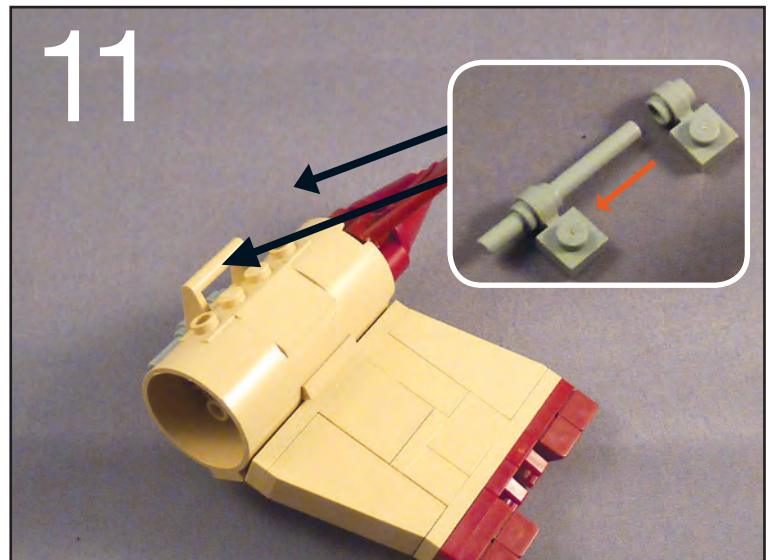
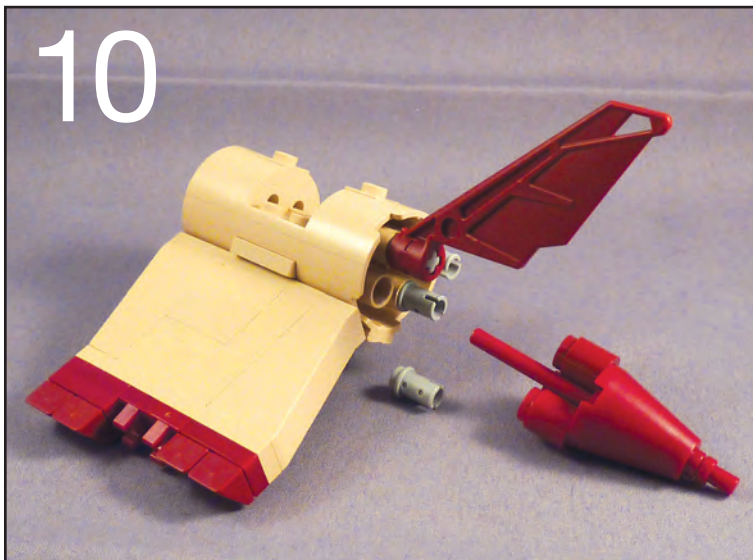
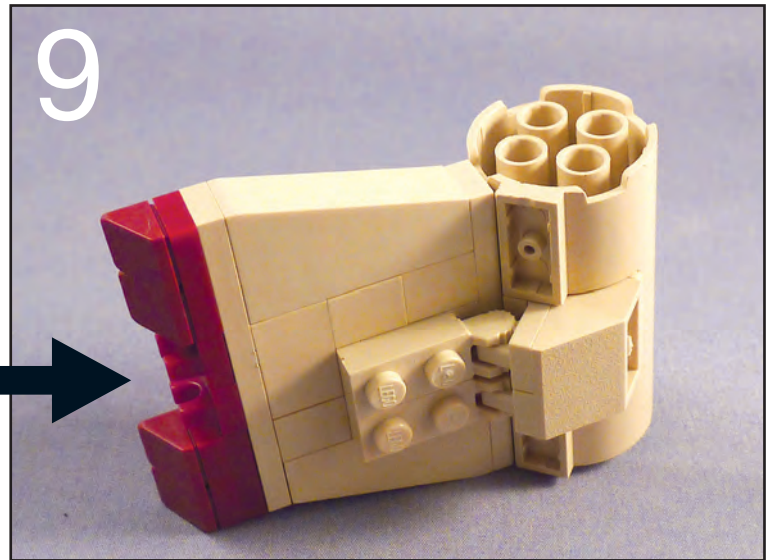
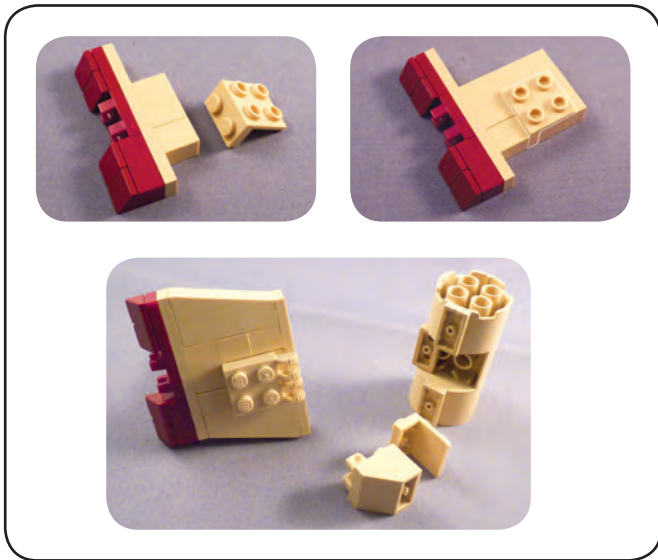
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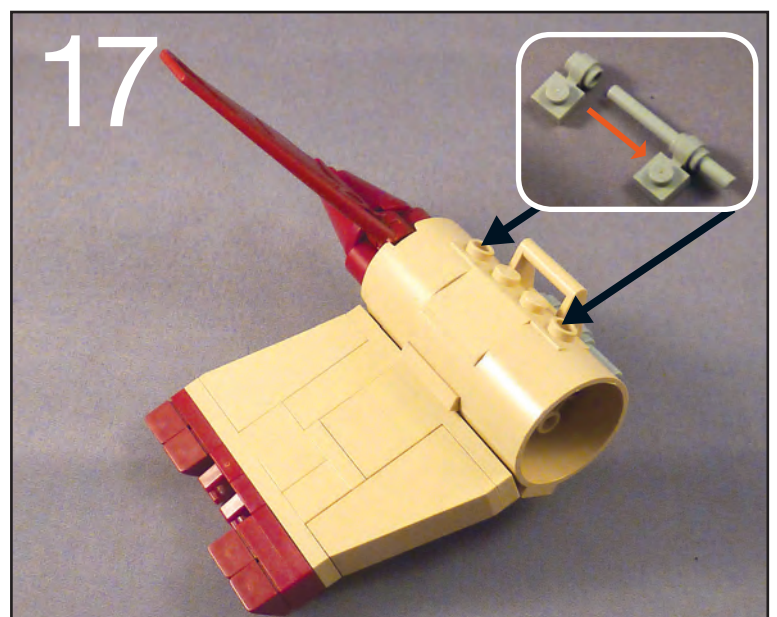
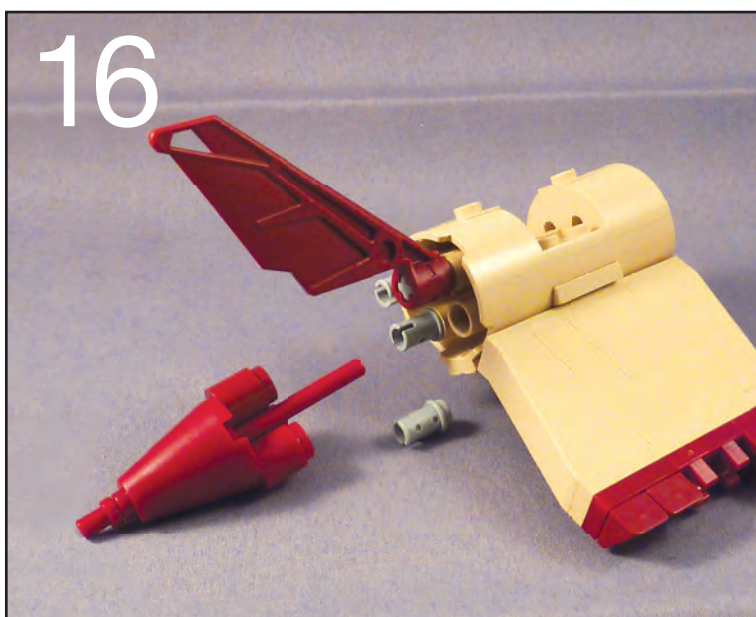
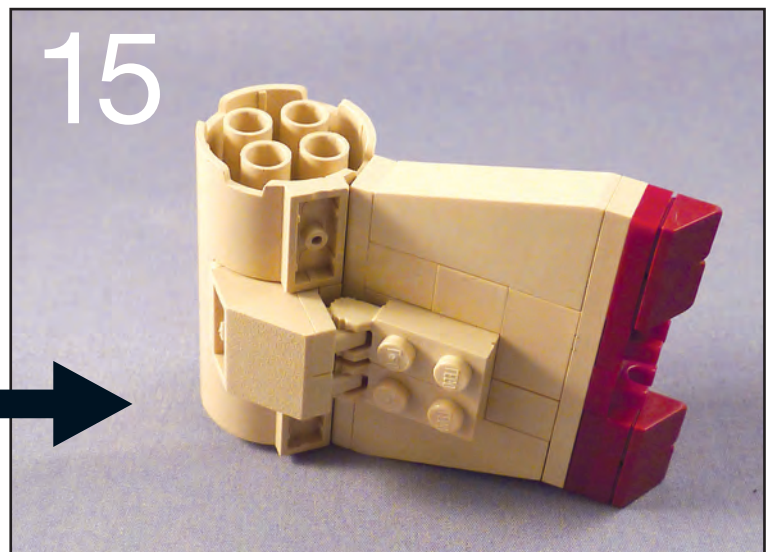
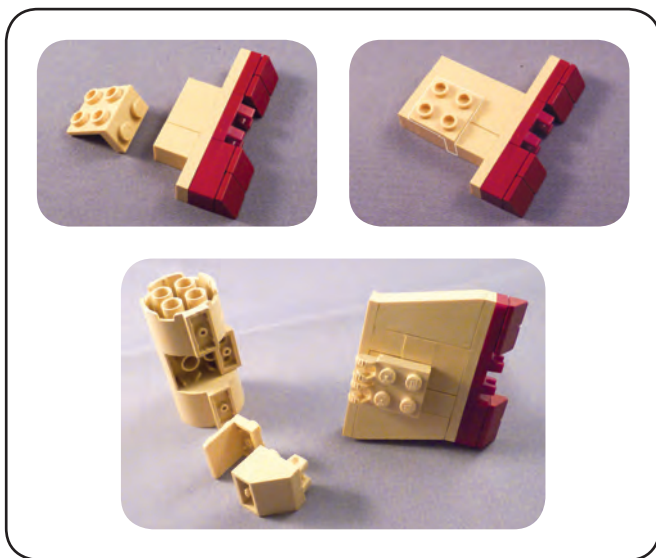
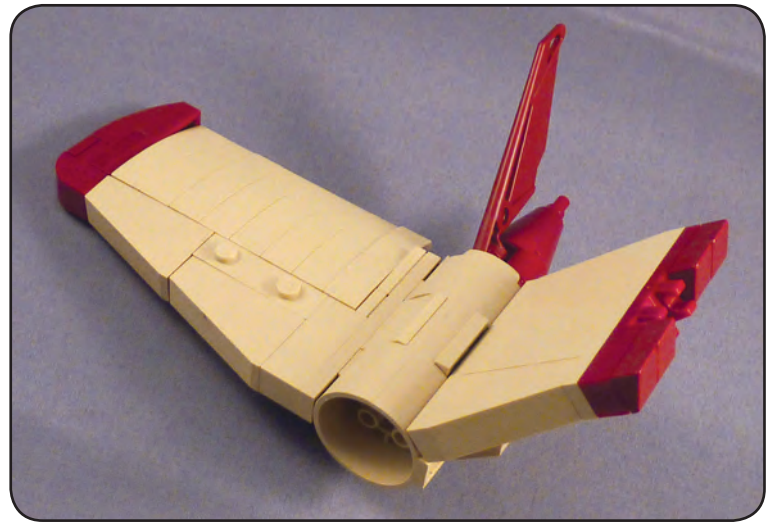
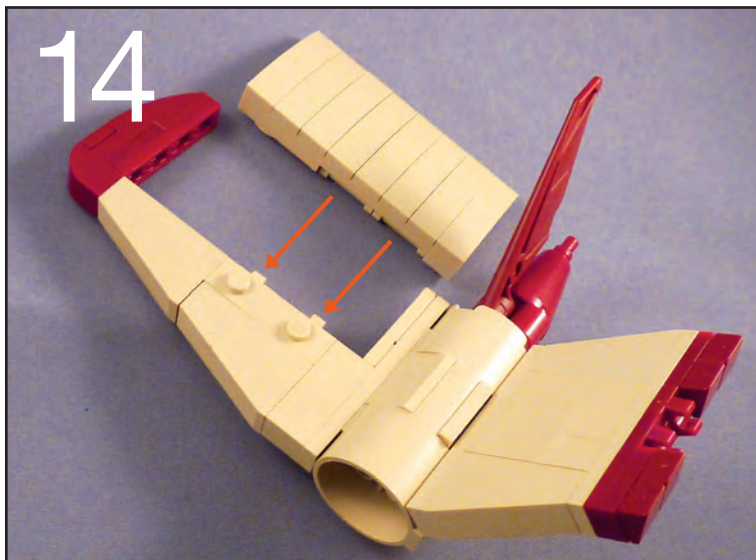


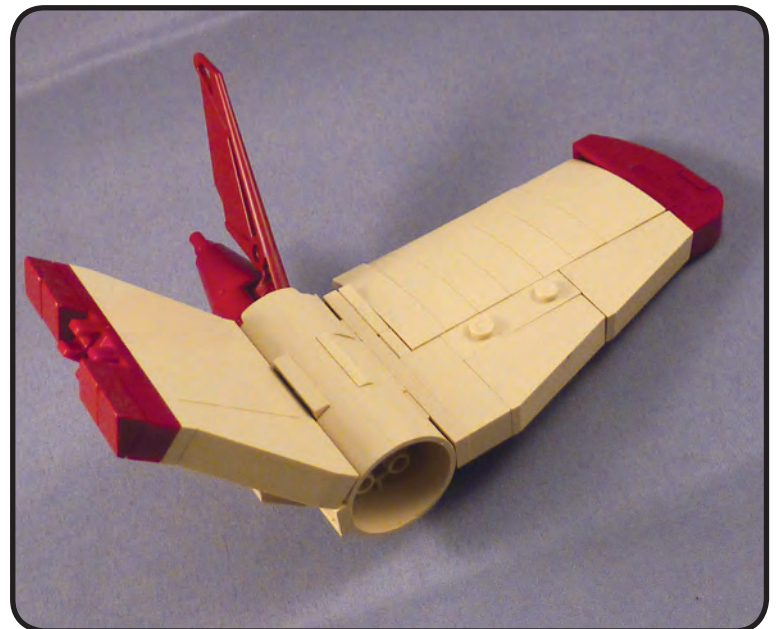
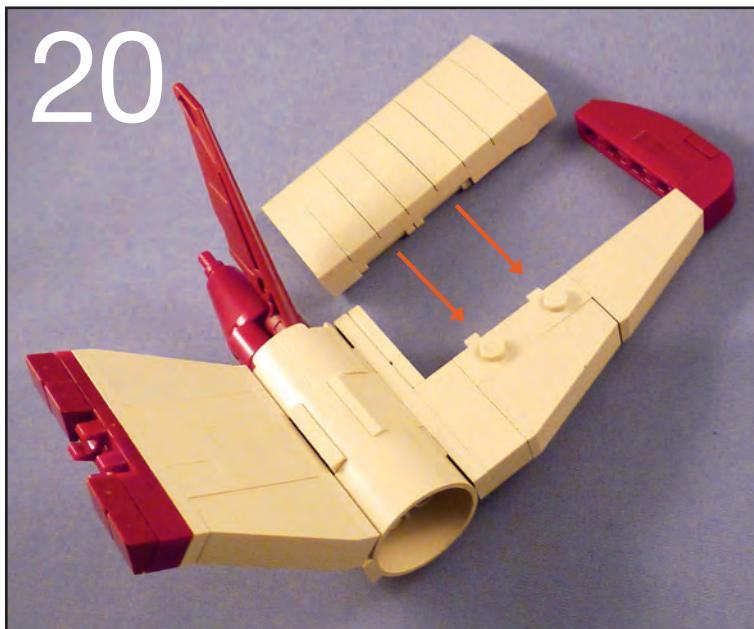
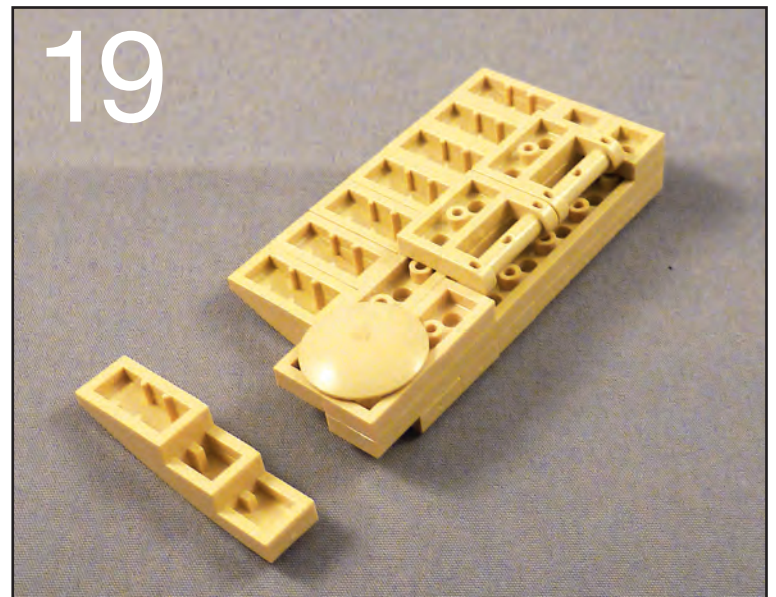
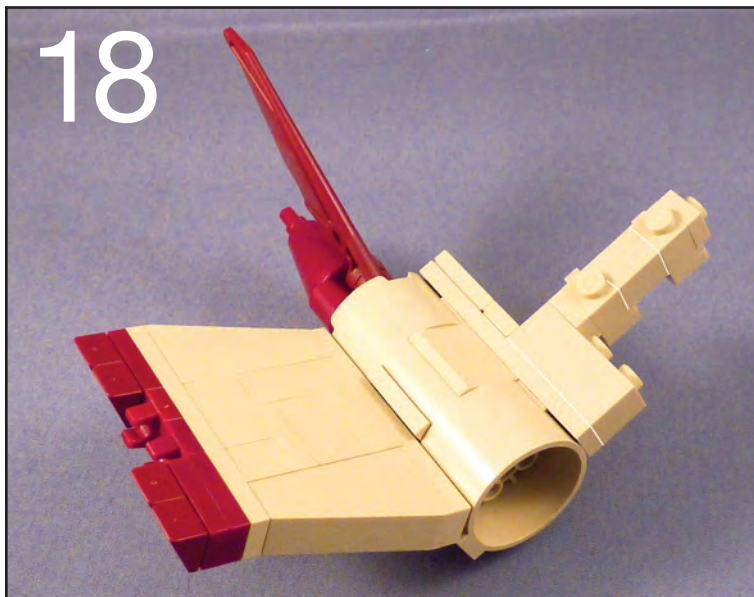
Building Tip

Make sure that your minifigure can fit into the cockpit before you build too much of your plane!





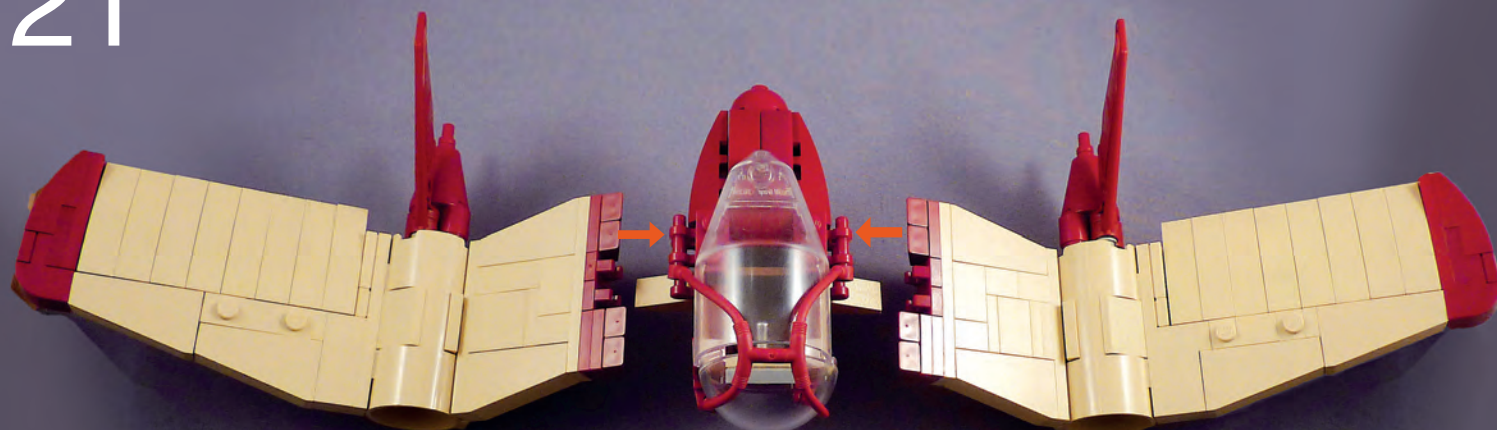




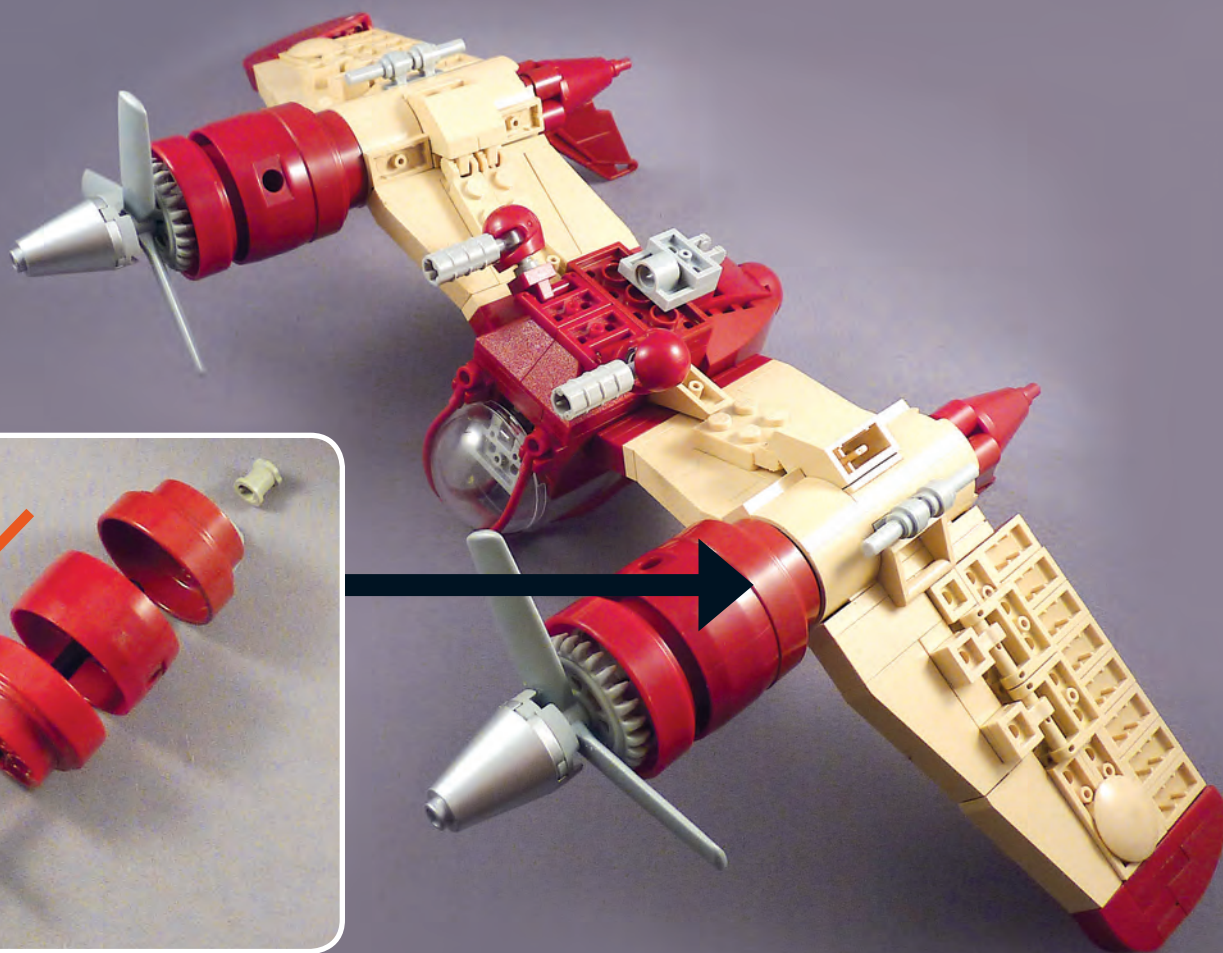
BUILDING JOURNAL

Jon's planes take advantage of the many curved and circular LEGO pieces. He has a talent for using elements so they flow from one into the next as if they belong together. This is something I should look at more closely in my own building. What slopes and curves can I use to smoothly form a cohesive shape? There must be millions of combinations.

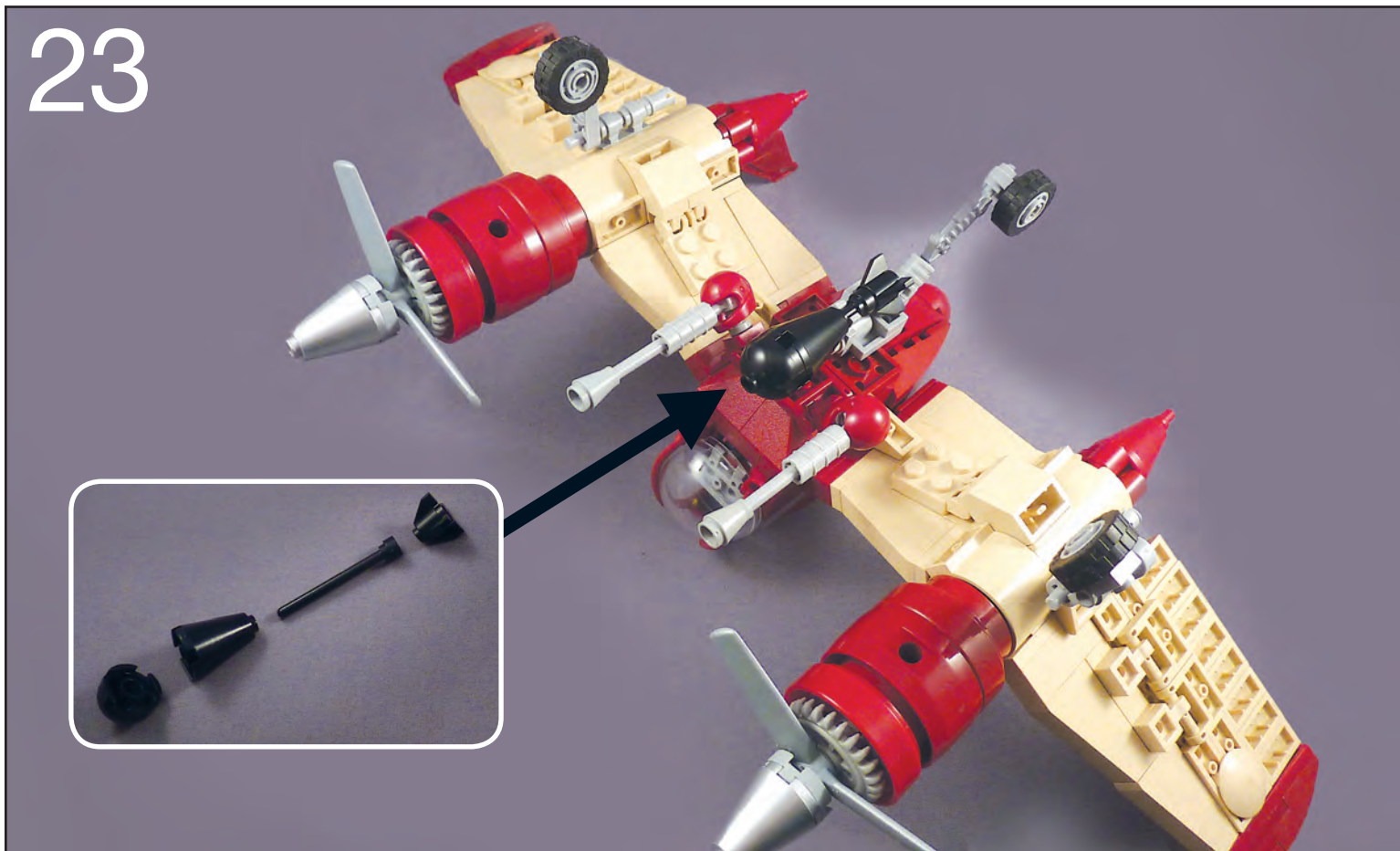
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22

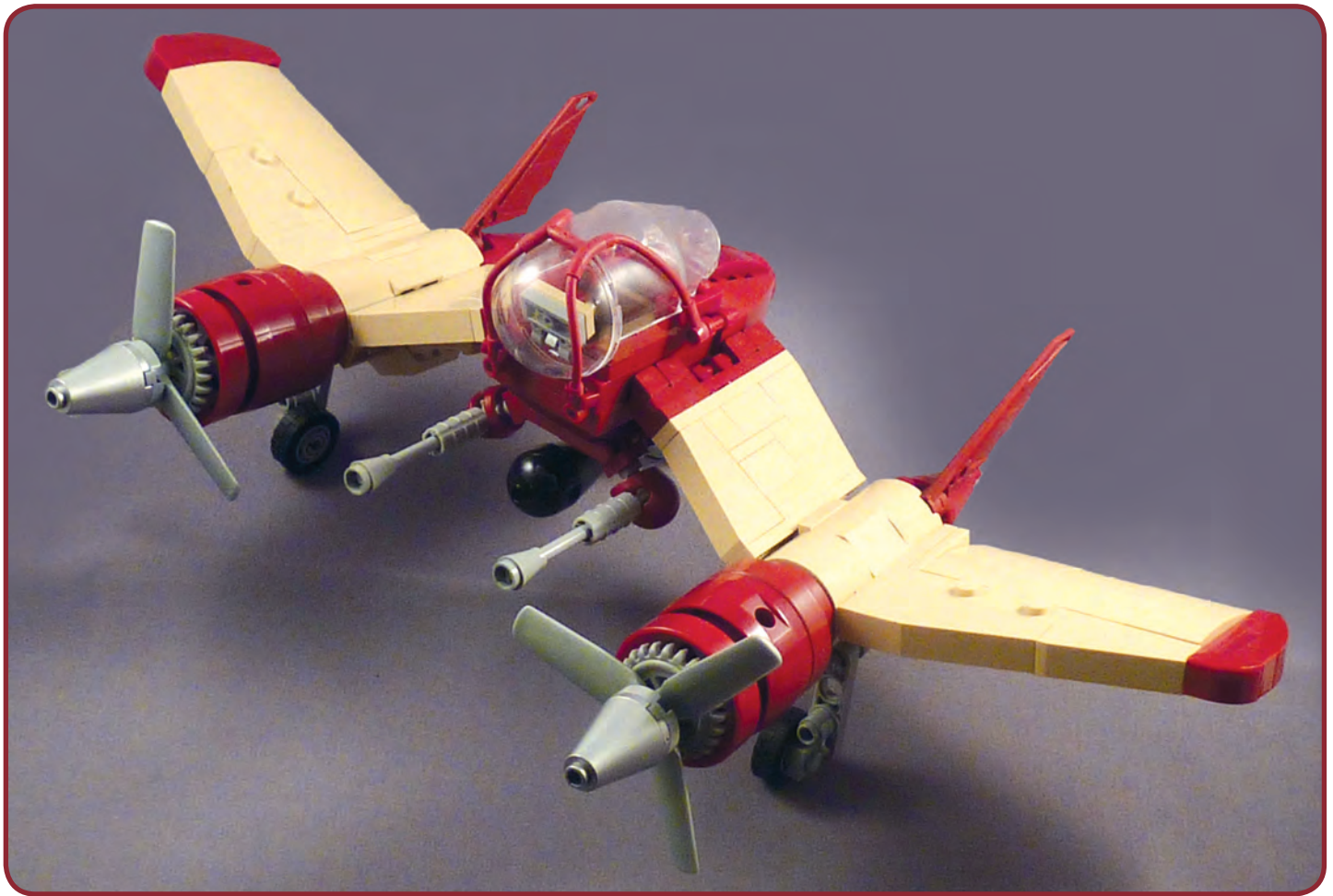


23



24





BUILDING JOURNAL

Jon says: "Vehicles with interesting paint jobs often have sections that are painted bright colors and sections that aren't. You can re-create this effect by using differently colored bricks in different parts of your model."



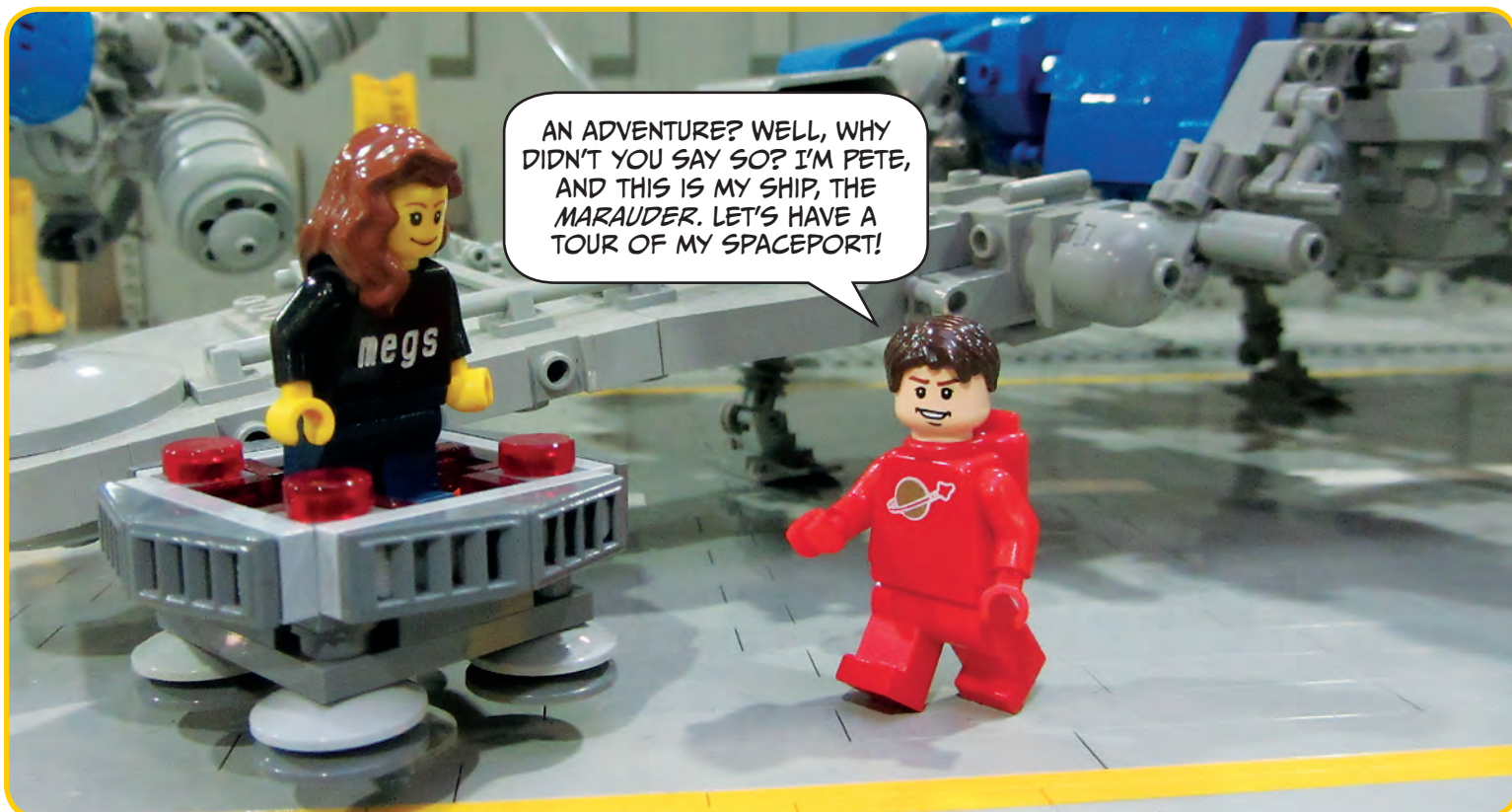
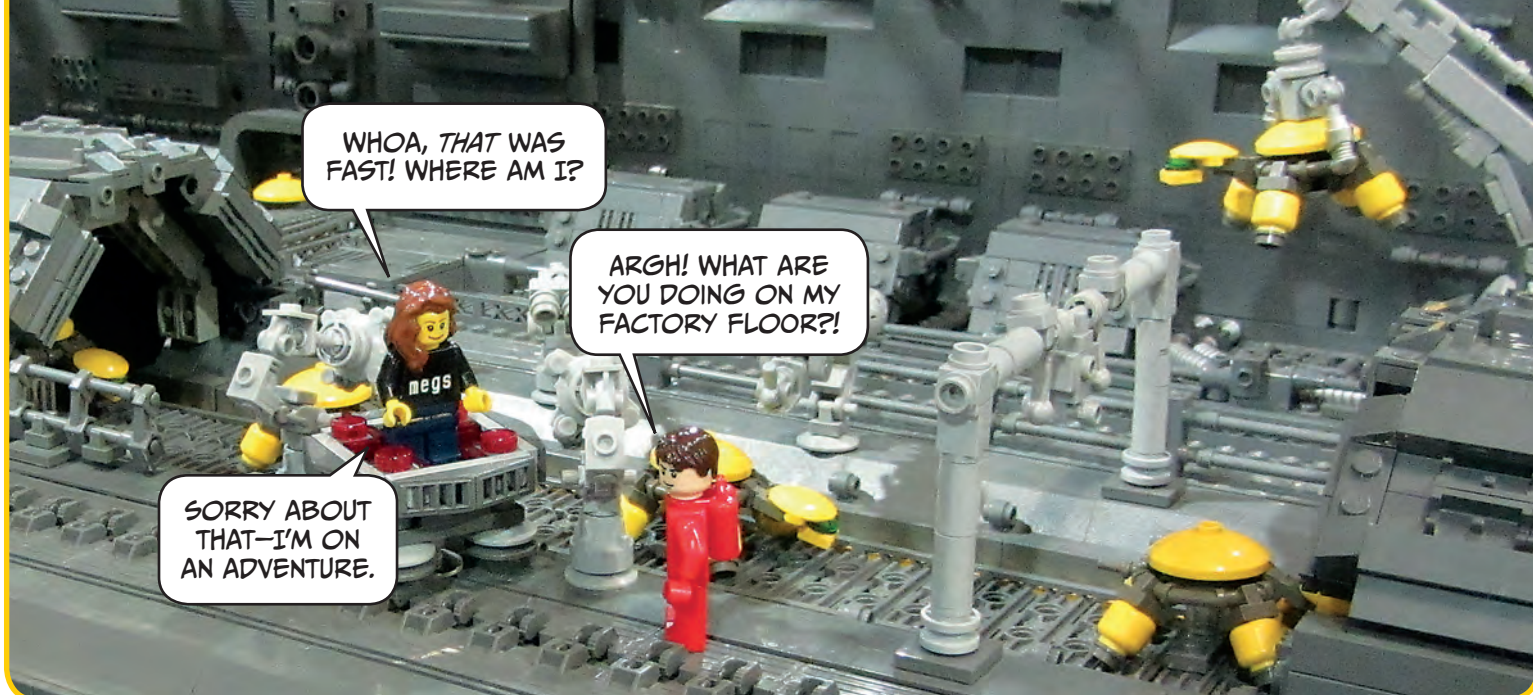
THE PHOENIX IS
A REAL BEAUTY.
I BET SHE GOES
REALLY FAST!

WELL, I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE,
BUT IT MUST BE PRETTY FAST
SINCE I CAN BEAM IN AND OUT
OF WORLDS INSTANTANEOUSLY.
BRICKBOT, CLOCK MY SPEED!
SEE YOU LATER, JON!

THANKS! SHE IS
PRETTY FAST. HOW
ABOUT YOUR RIDE?



The Turtle Factory





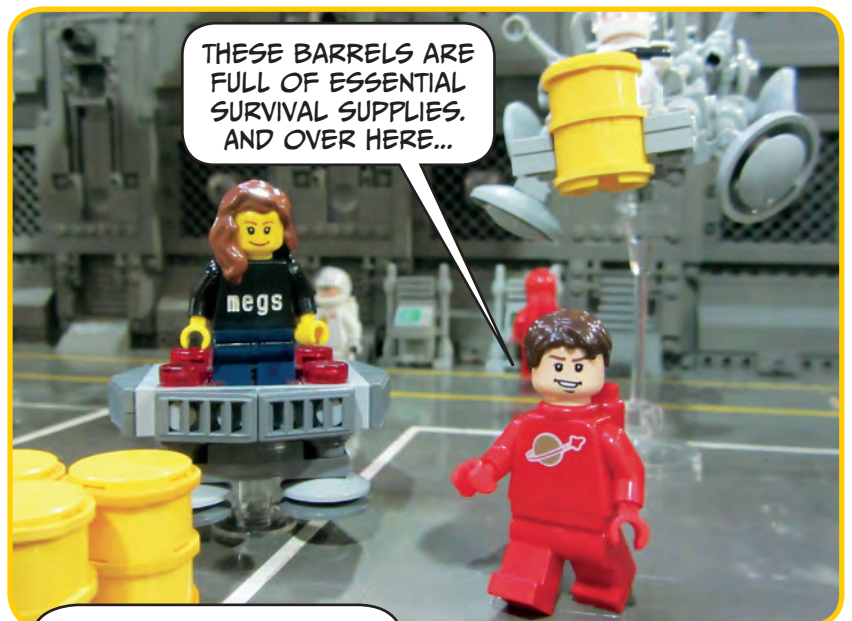
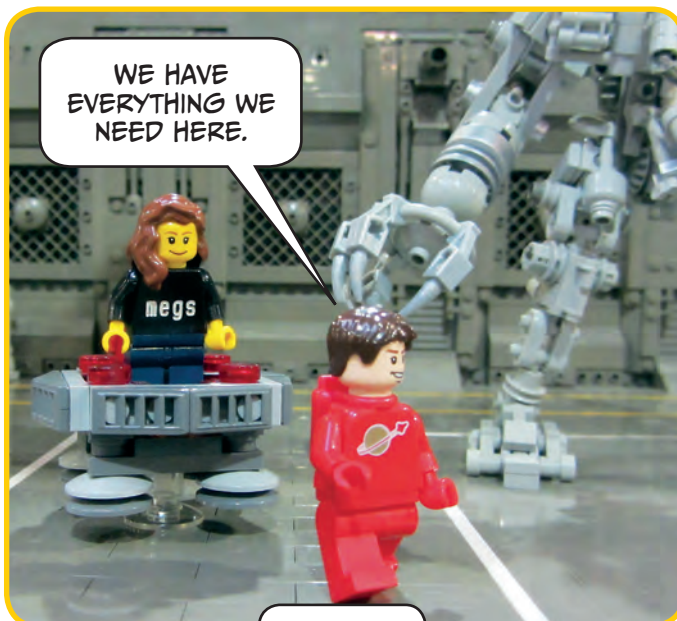
Pete Reid

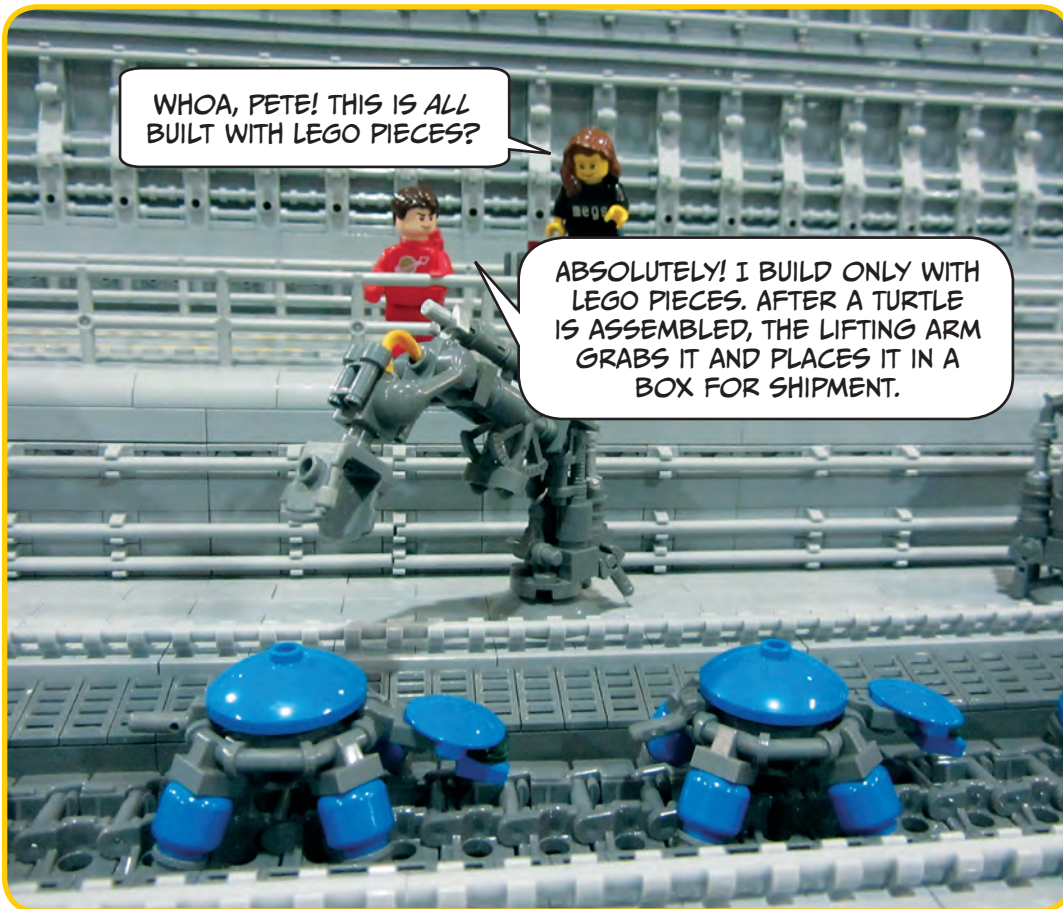
Nickname: Legoloverman

Profession: Author

Nationality: British

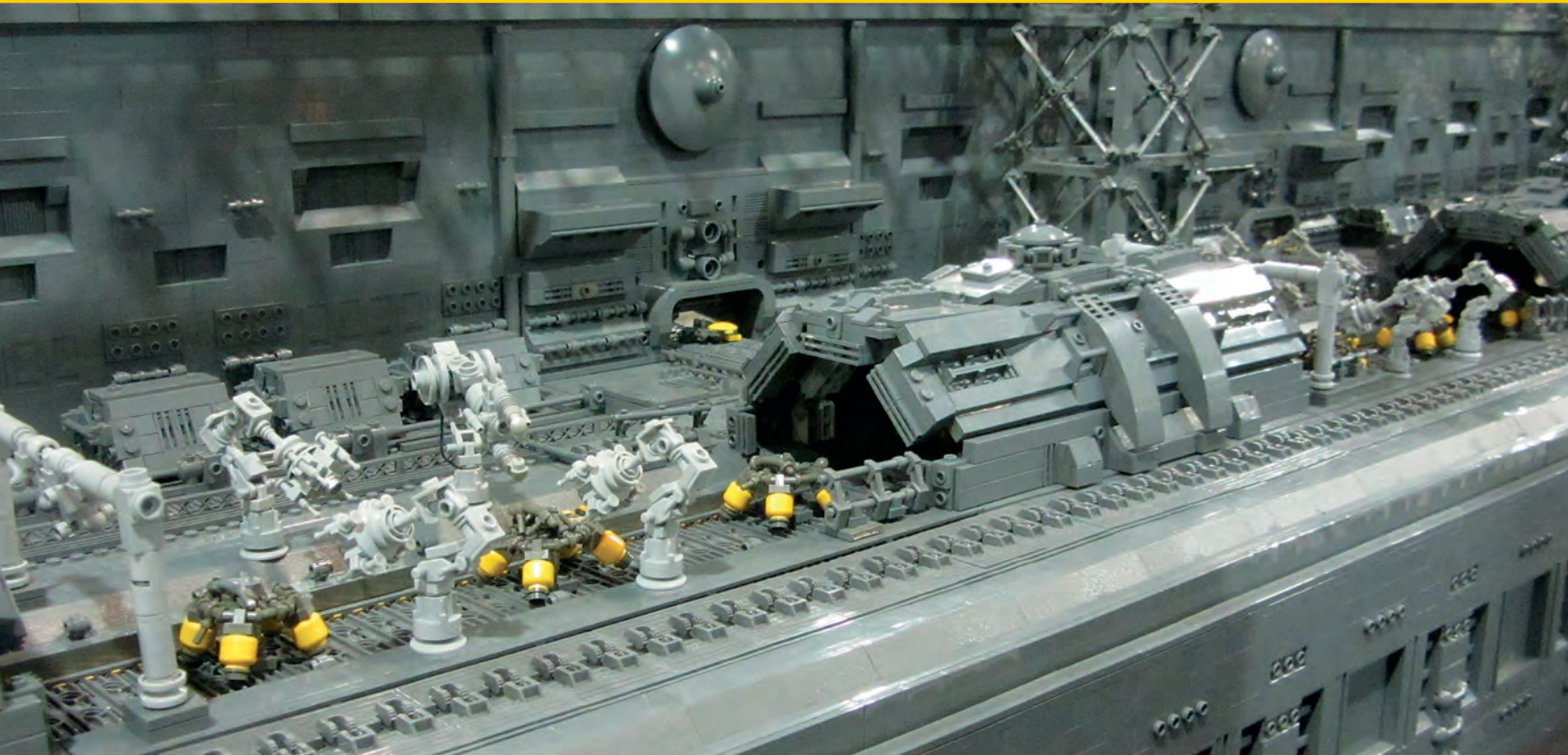
Website: www.flickr.com/photos/legoloverman/





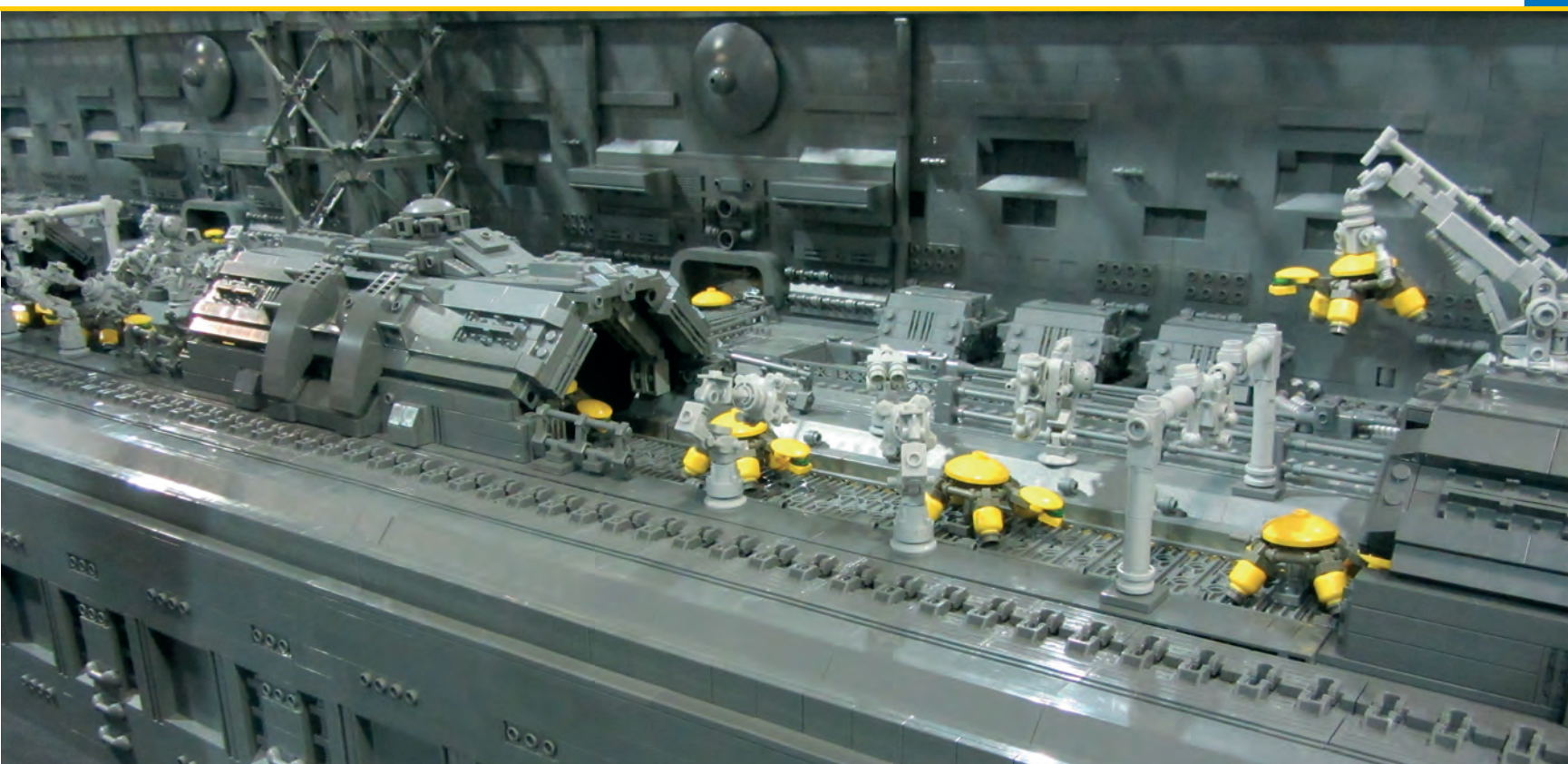
BUILDING JOURNAL

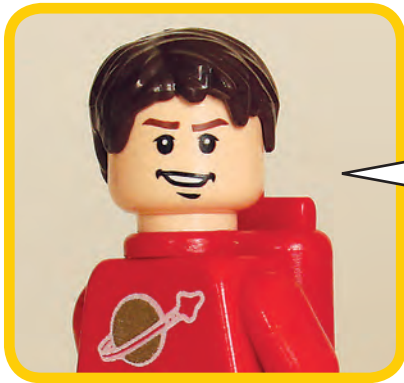
Pete told me it can take a long time to build a cool LEGO robot. I should gather my smallest pieces and consider the best combinations.





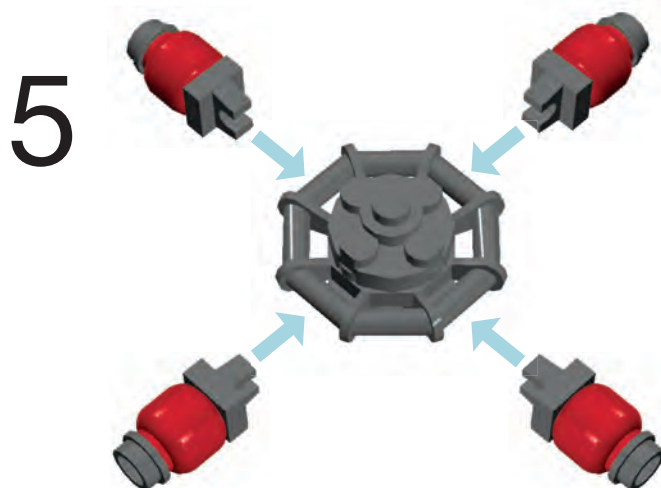
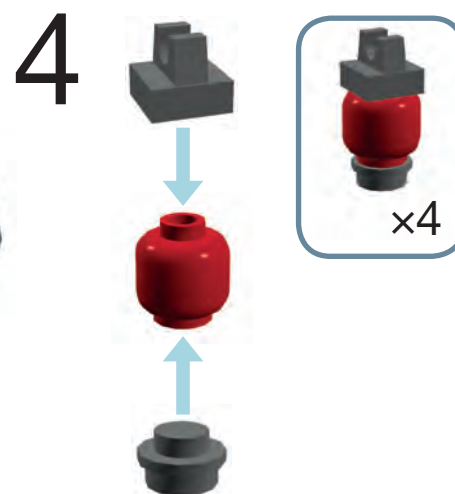
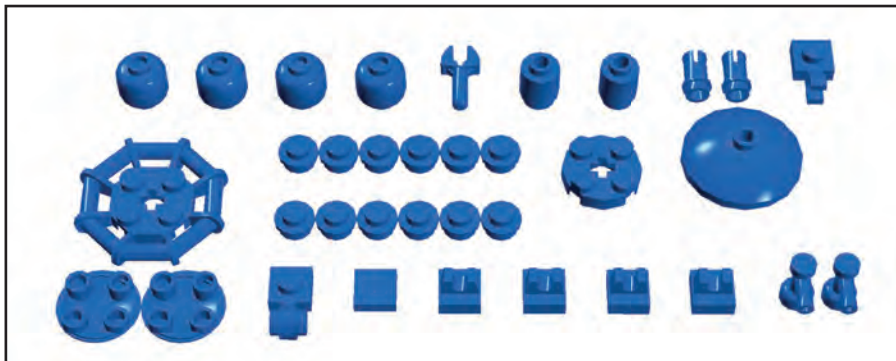
Turtle Factory arm variants

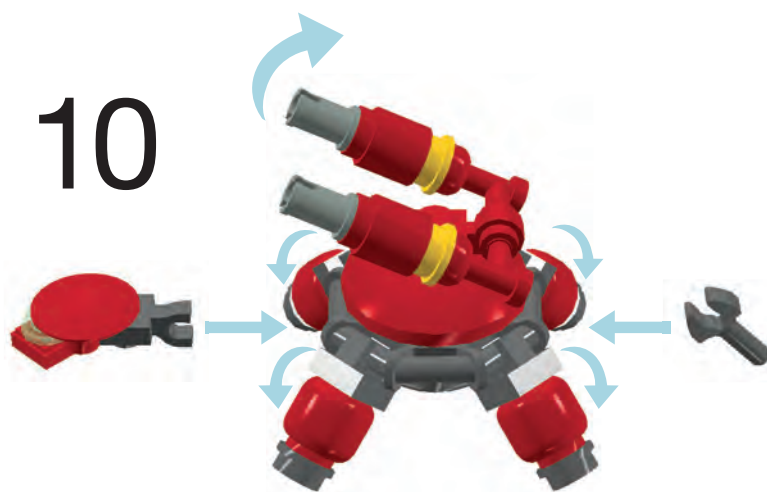
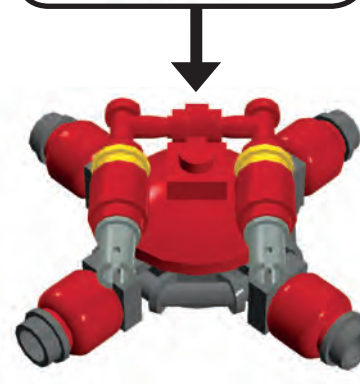
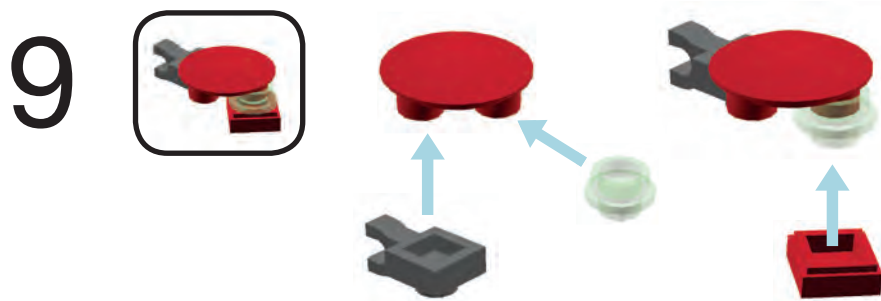
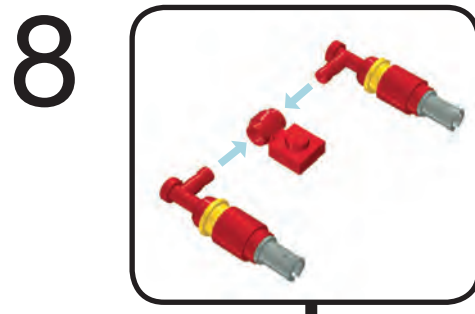
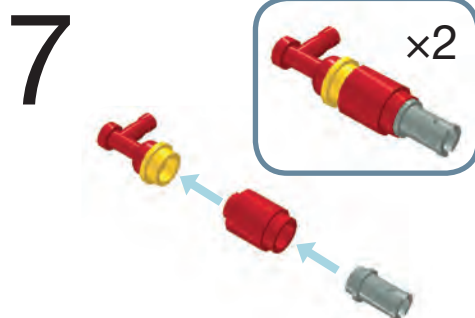


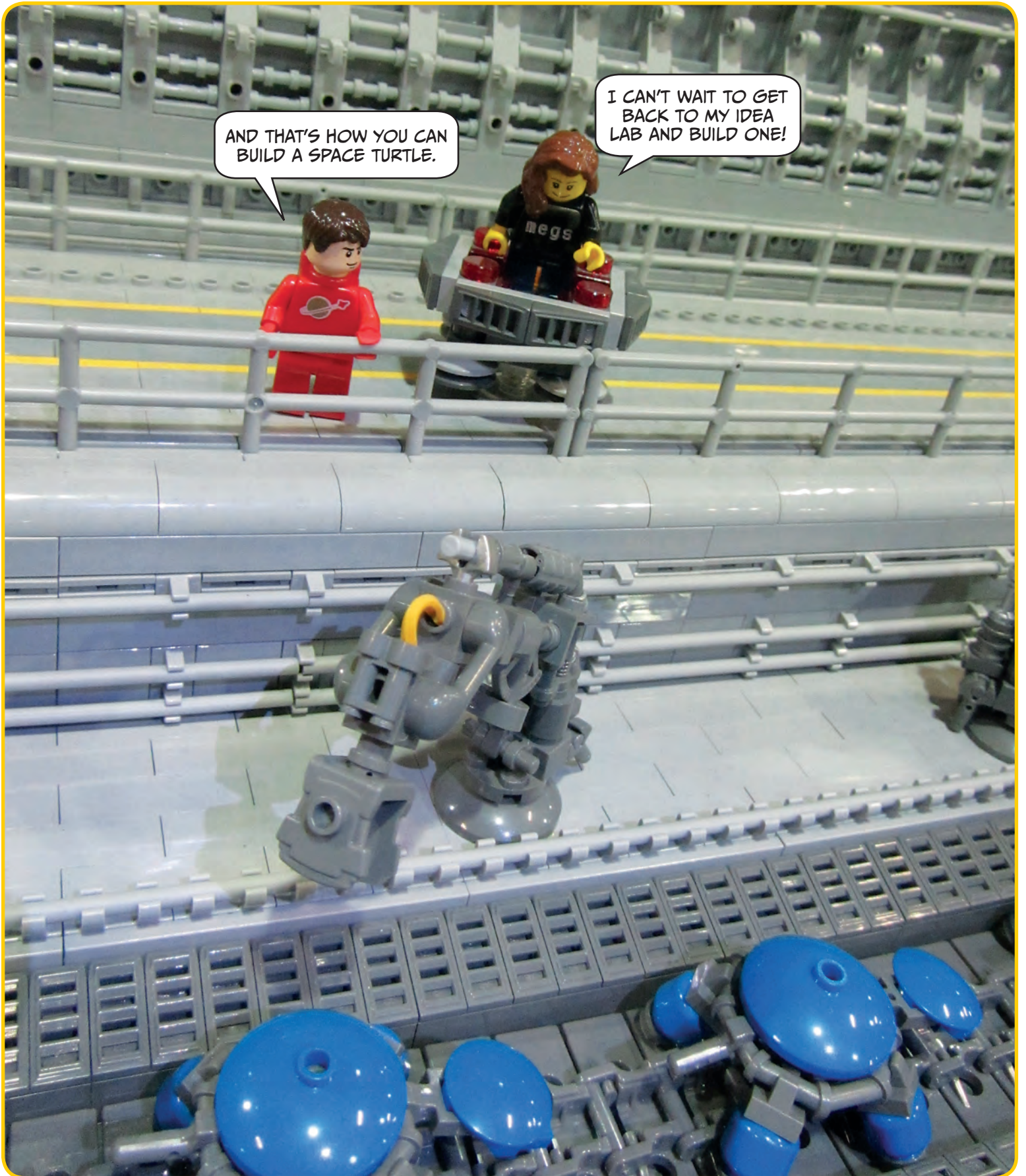


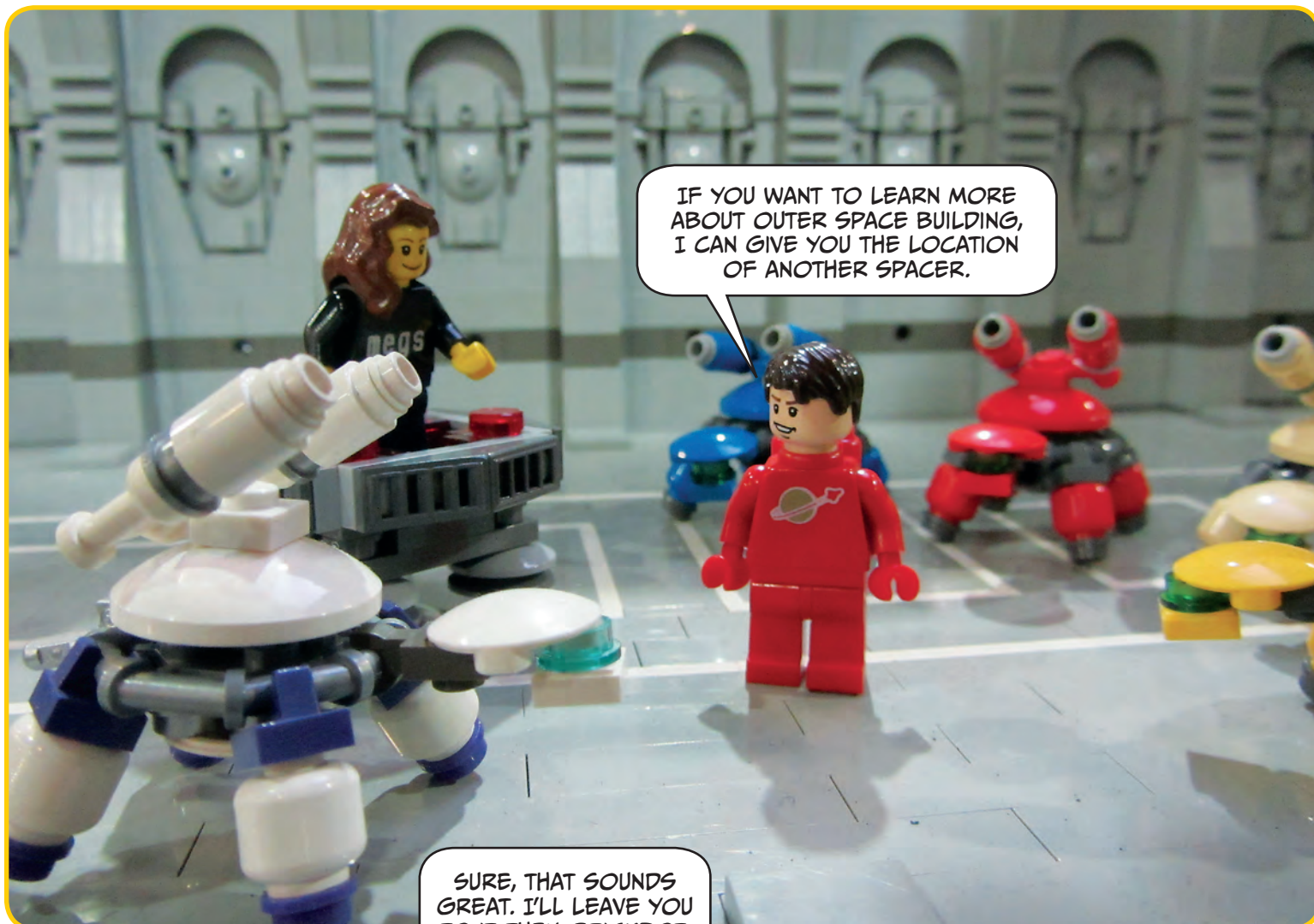
YOU DON'T NEED A FACTORY
TO BUILD YOUR OWN SPACE
TURTLE-BOT. TRY BUILDING THEM
IN DIFFERENT COLORS, AND USE
OTHER LEGO PIECES TO MAKE
DIFFERENT LEGS AND GUNS.
GO ON, HAVE A GO!

Space Turtles









SURE, THAT SOUNDS GREAT. I'LL LEAVE YOU TO IT THEN. BRICKBOT, BEAM ME TO THESE COORDINATES!



Okay, Megs, the coordinates are locked. Beaming you now.



Starfighters



WOW, THIS IS
SUPERSONIC
SPEED!!

NOW, I JUST HAVE TO
ATTACH THE LAST ABS
MODULE...

WHOA! YOU JUST APPEARED
OUT OF NOWHERE!

DON'T BE ALARMED. I'M JUST
HERE TO SEE YOUR LEGO
STARFIGHTER COLLECTION.
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT TOO
BUSY TO SHOW ME SOME
OF YOUR SHIPS.



OH, DON'T WORRY. I'M A BIT
OF A GREASE MONKEY. I'M
JUST PUTTING THE FINISHING
TOUCHES ON MY SERAPH
STARFIGHTER RIGHT NOW. I CAN
SHOW YOU HOW THE WHOLE
THING WAS BUILT, IF YOU LIKE.



REALLY? THAT
WOULD BE
GREAT!





Peter Morris

Nickname: peterlmorris, aka Rival M

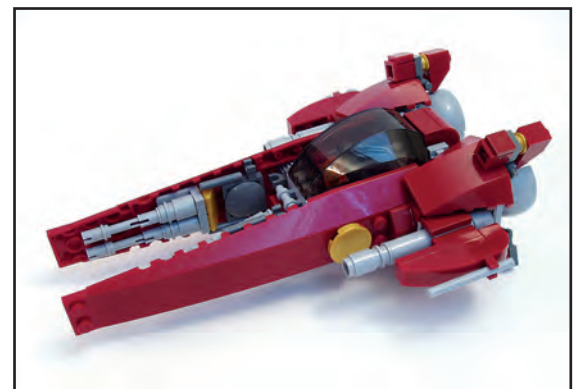
Profession: Stay-at-Home Dad

Nationality: American

Website: www.flickr.com/photos/rival_m/

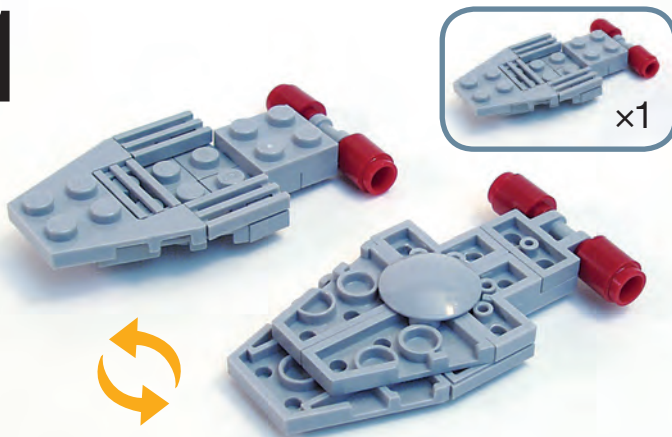


OKAY, GET READY TO
BUILD MY STARFIGHTER!
PAY CLOSE ATTENTION.
YOU'LL HAVE TO STUDY MY
BREAKDOWN CLOSELY.

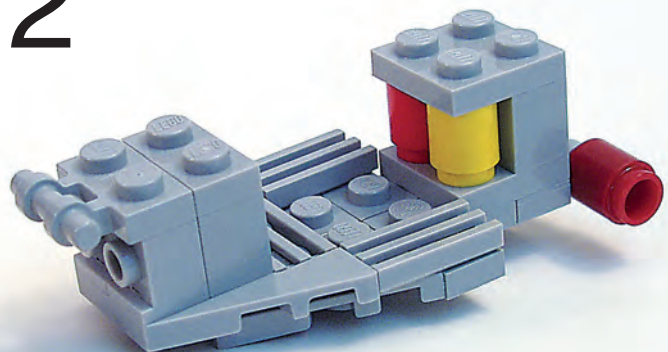


Seraph Starfighter

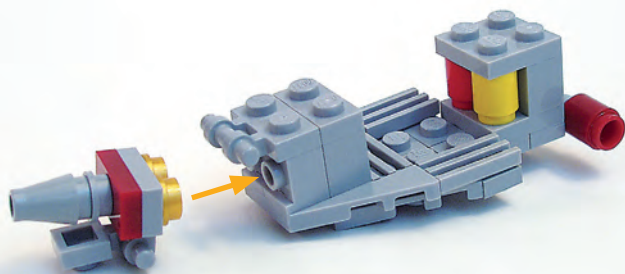
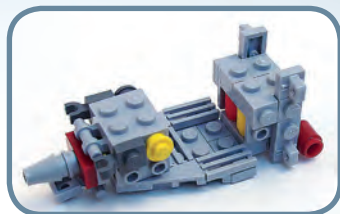
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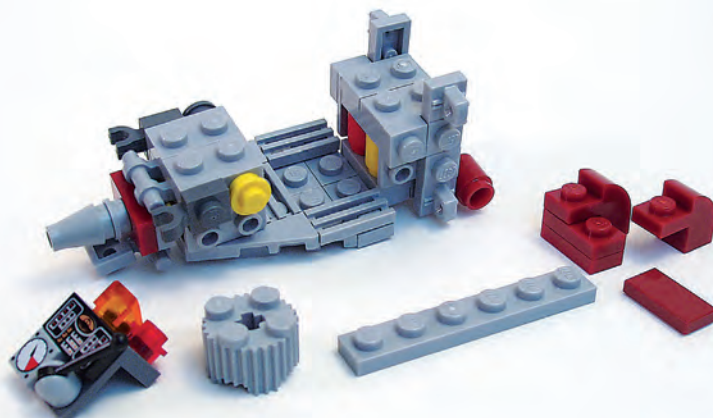
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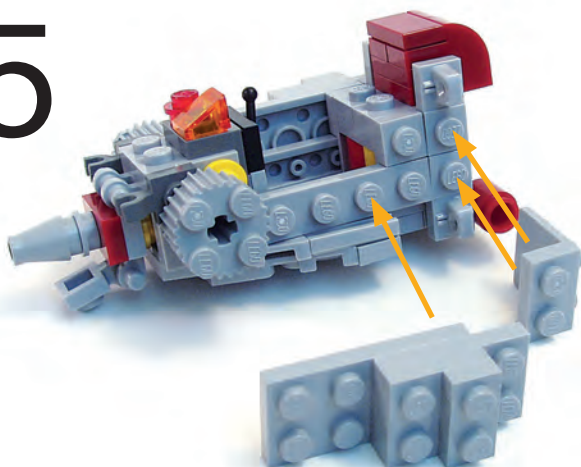
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Building Tip

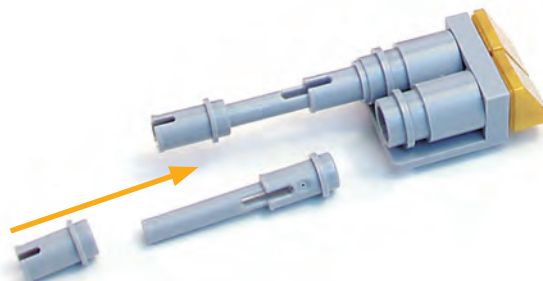
The far side of the model is a perfect mirror to the side you can see here.



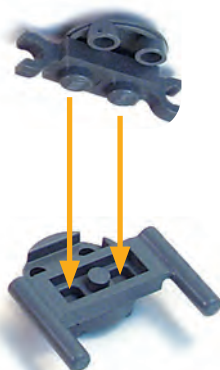
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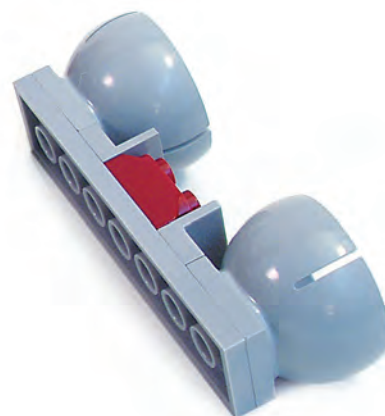
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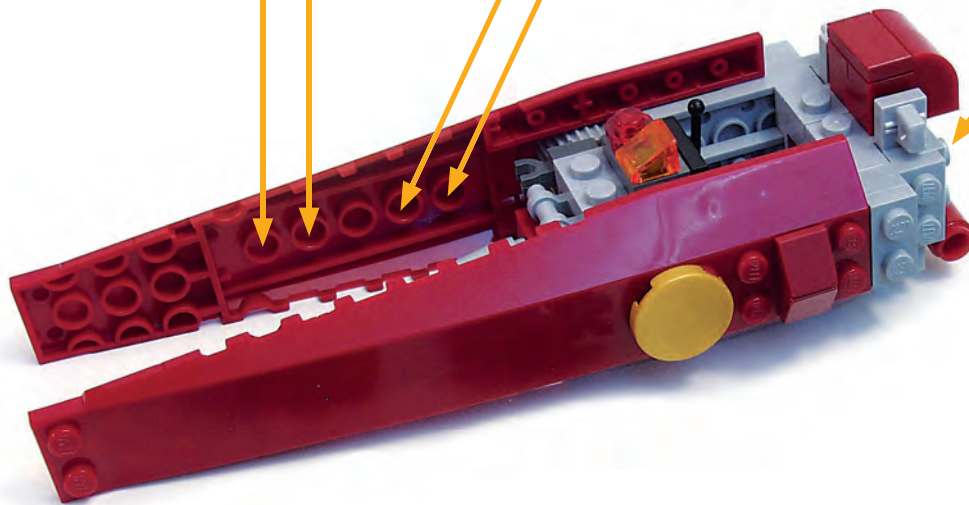
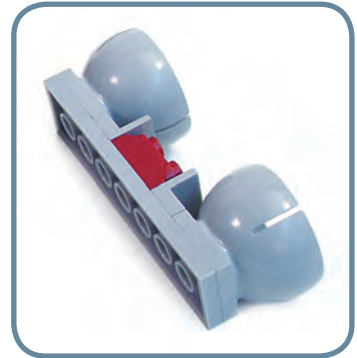
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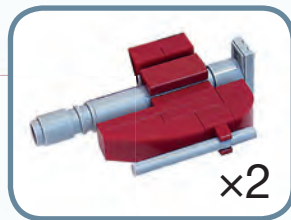
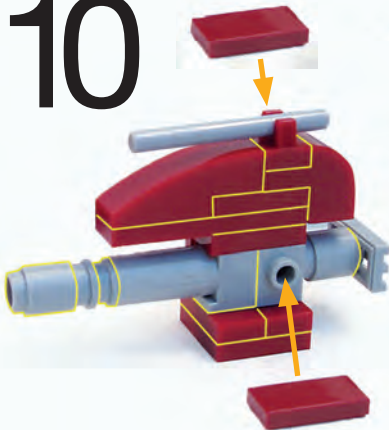
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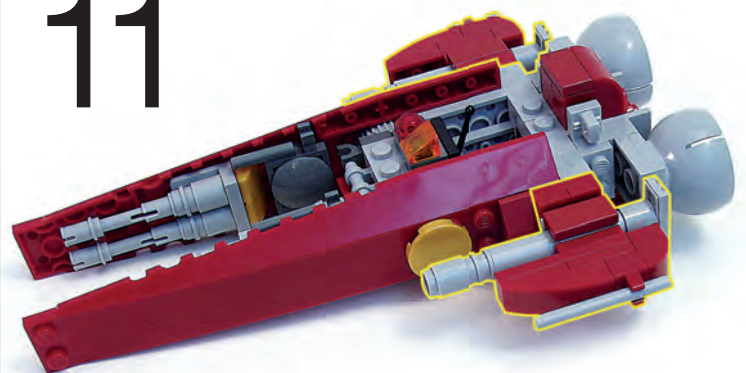
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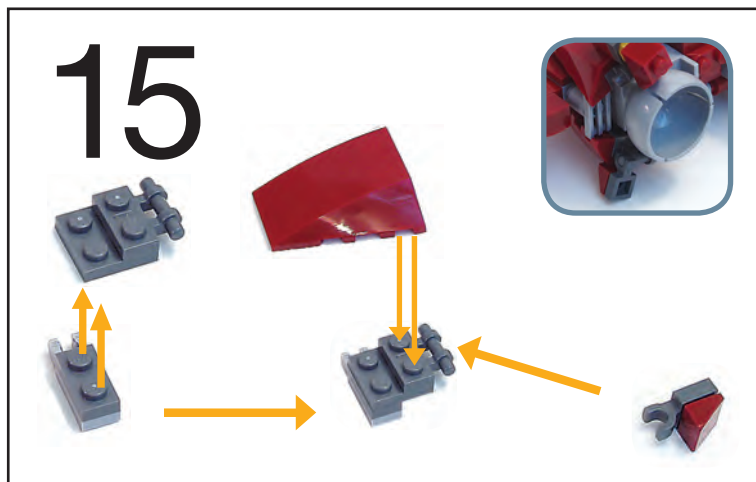
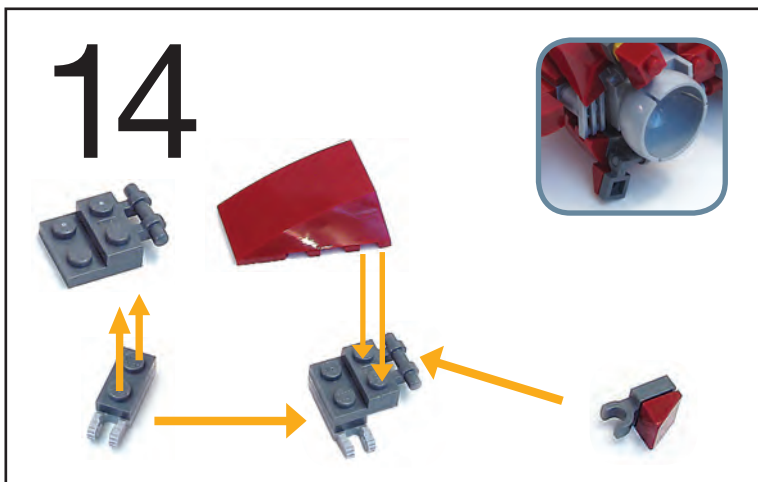
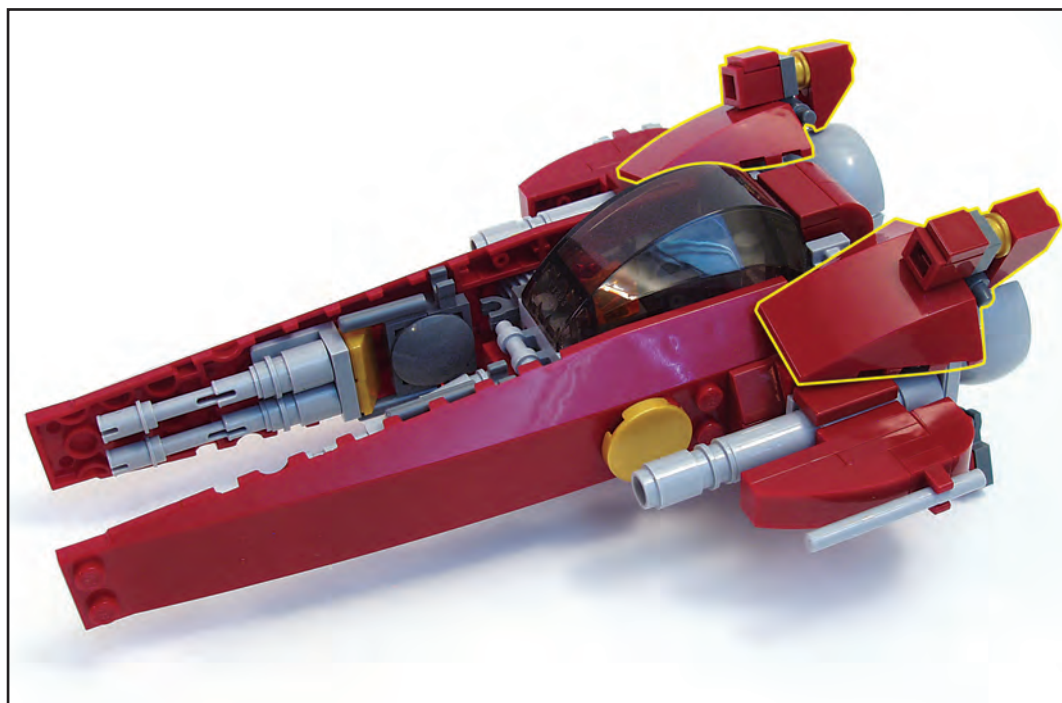
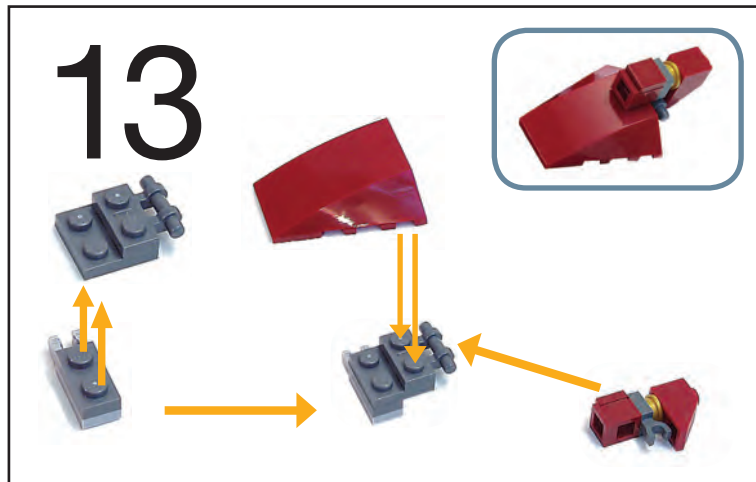
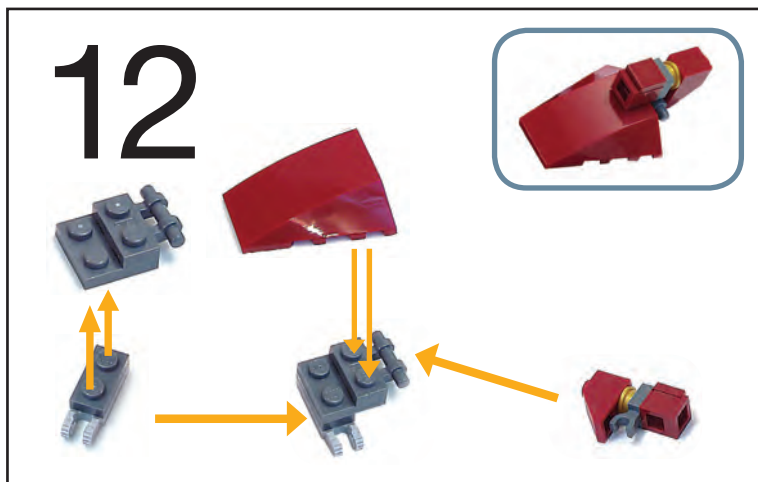


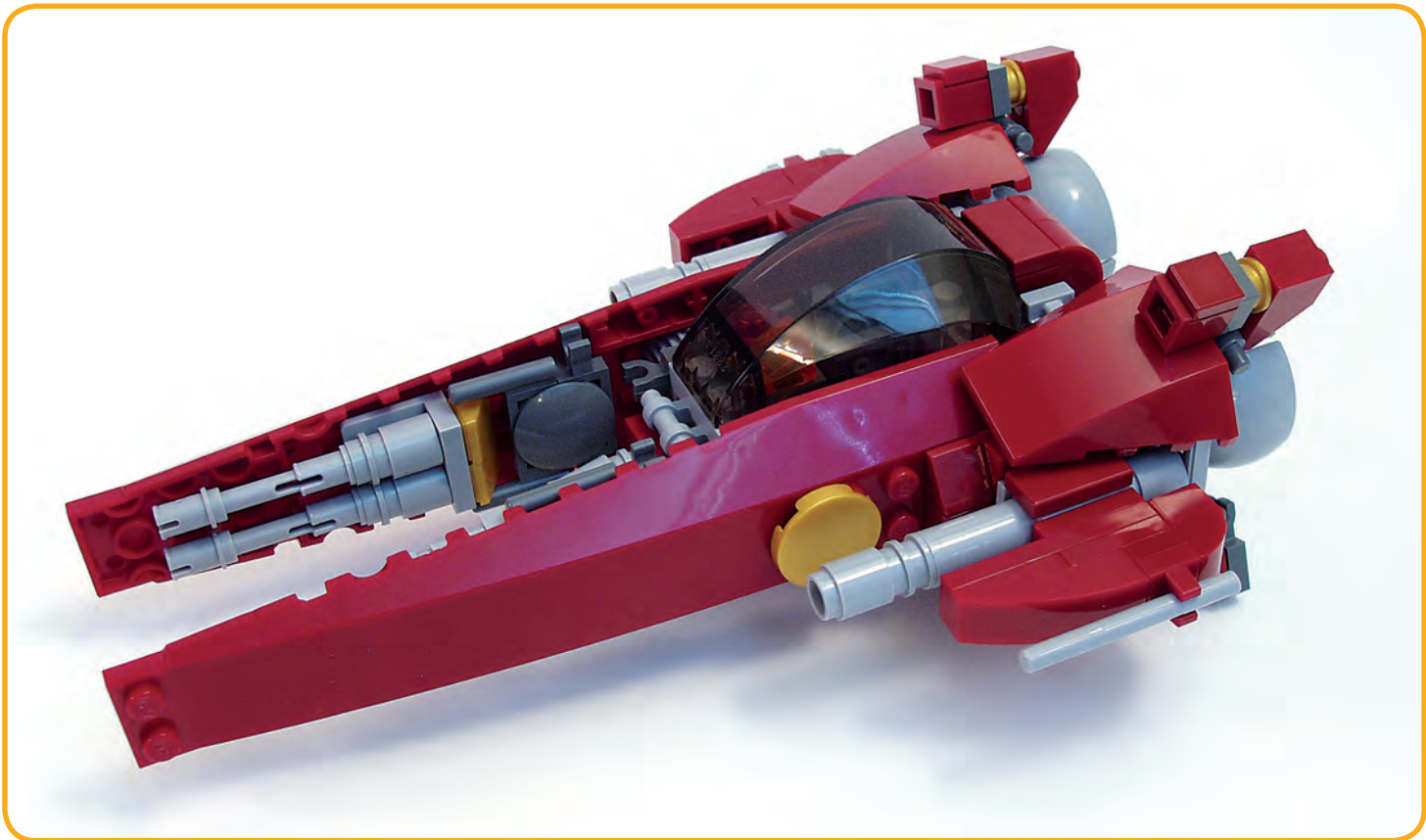
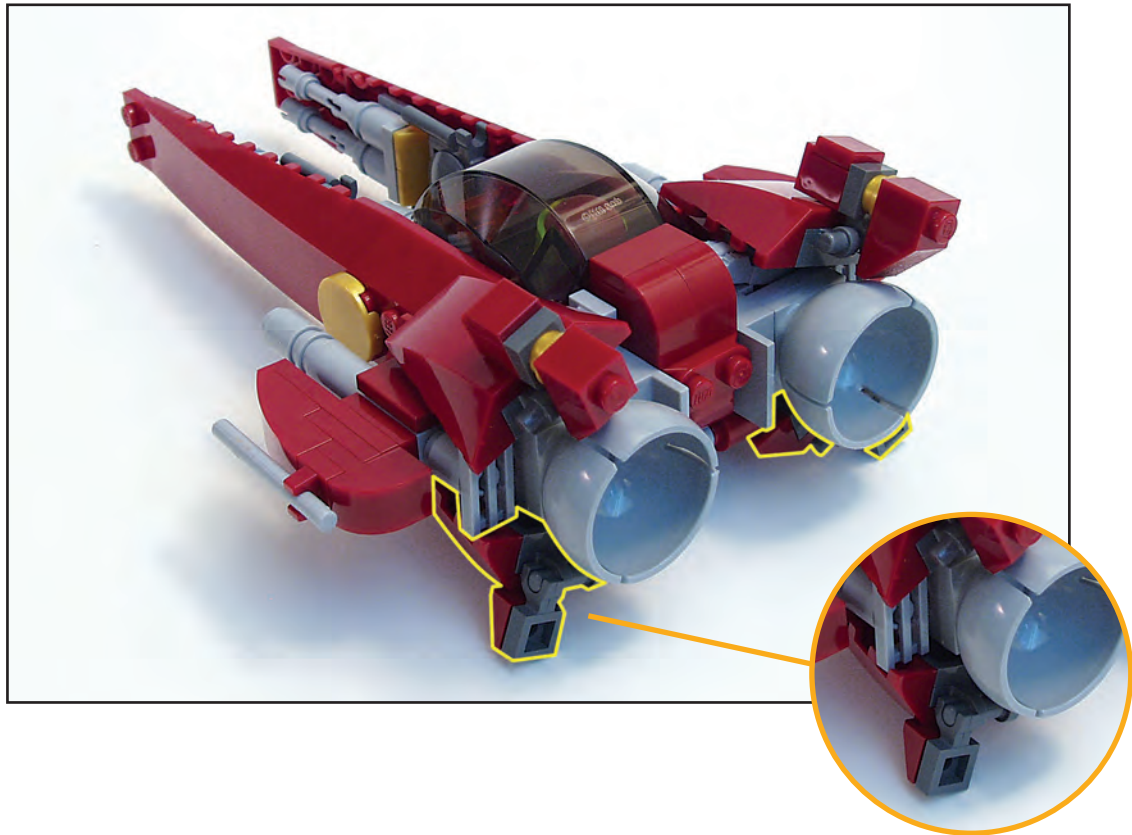
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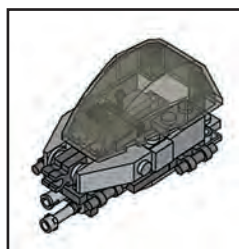
WHY DO YOU USE SO MANY OF THESE BRACKETS? SO YOU CAN BUILD SIDWAYS?



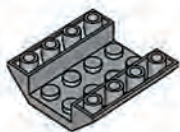
YES, USING THEM I'VE CREATED A SIMPLE WAY TO BUILD DIFFERENTLY CONFIGURED STARFIGHTERS QUICKLY. I HAVE A LOT OF SKETCHES AND IDEAS FOR SHIPS, BUT IF I BUILT A SEPARATE COCKPIT FOR EACH ONE I'D NEVER FINISH! SO I HAVE DESIGNED A SERIES OF SIMPLE COCKPIT BOXES THAT ALLOW FOR LOTS OF VARIATIONS. HERE, CHECK OUT THESE COCKPIT SCHEMATICS.



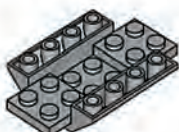
Cockpits



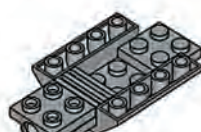
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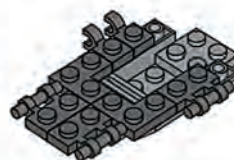
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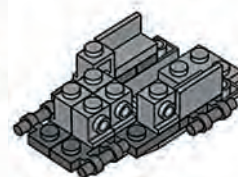
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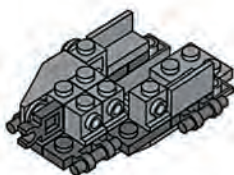
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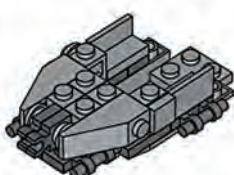
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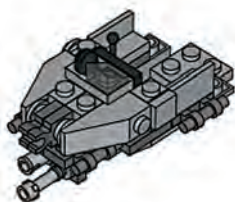
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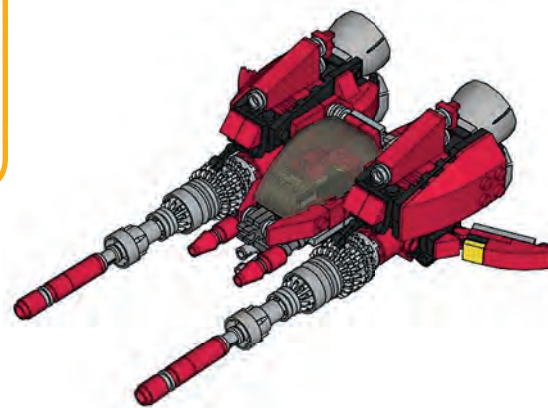
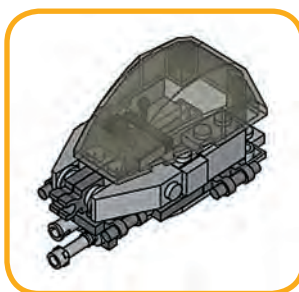
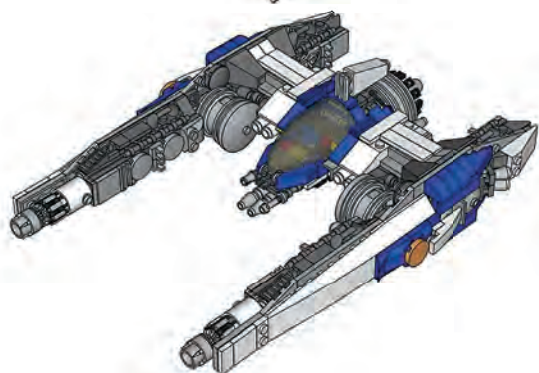
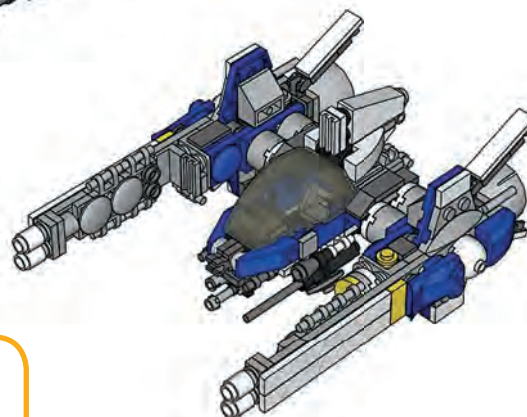
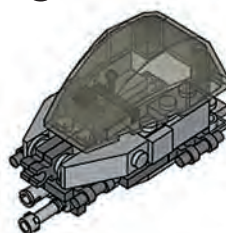
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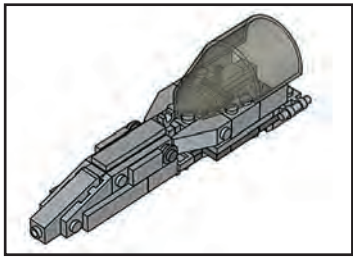


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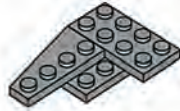




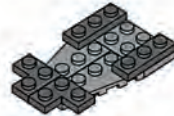
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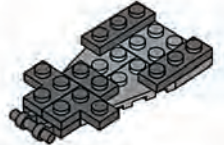
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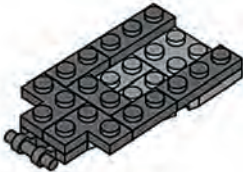
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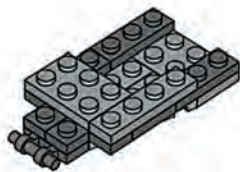
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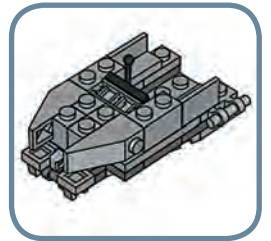
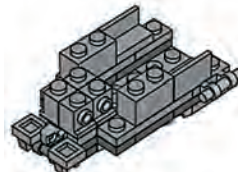
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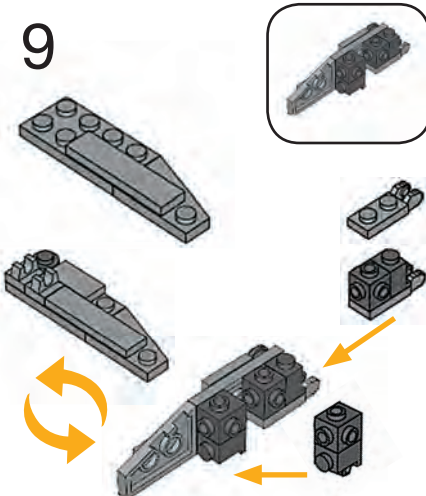
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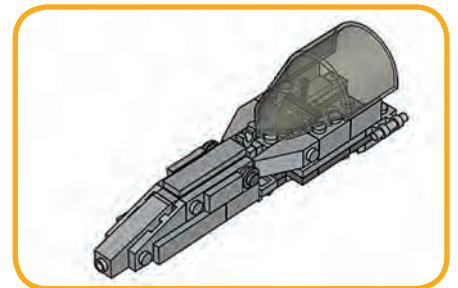
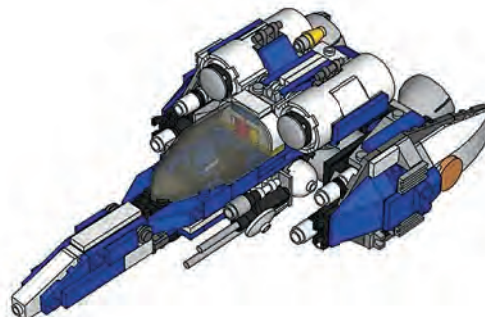
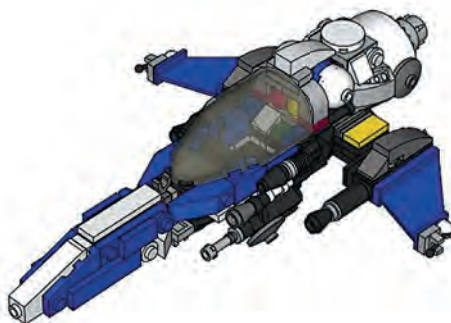
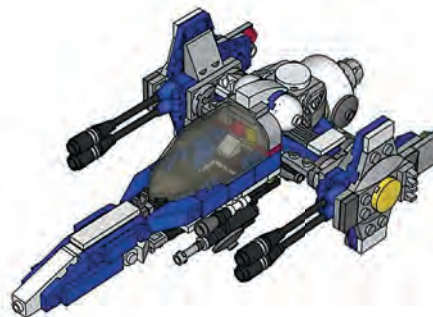
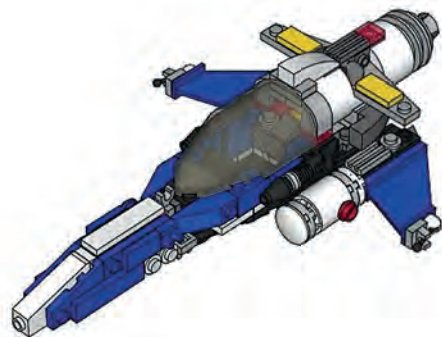
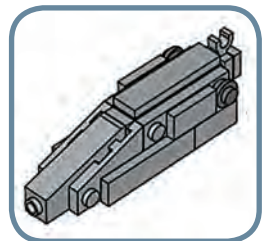
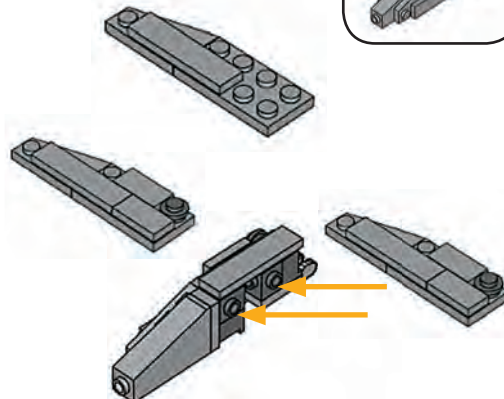
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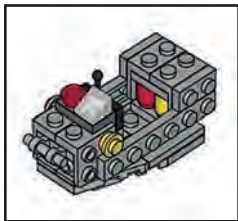


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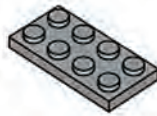


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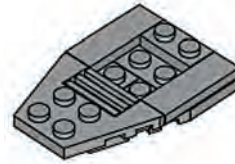
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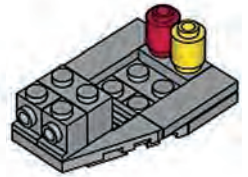
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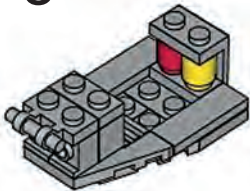
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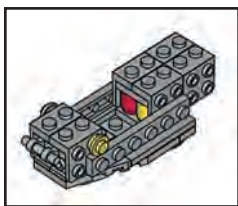
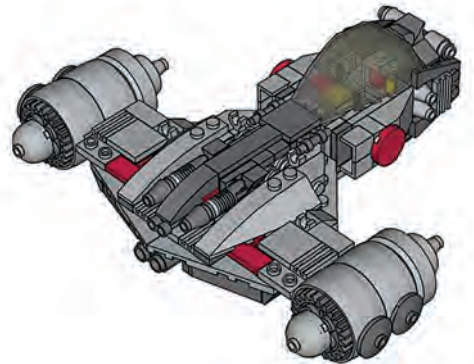
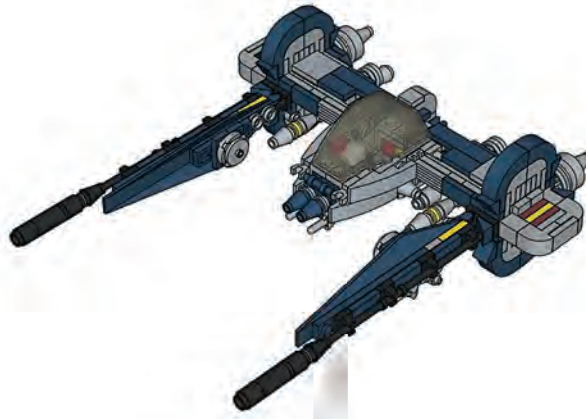
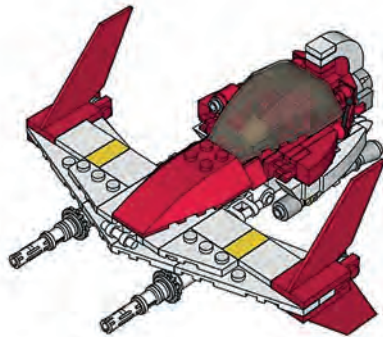
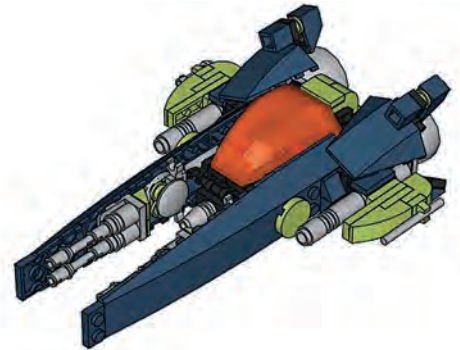
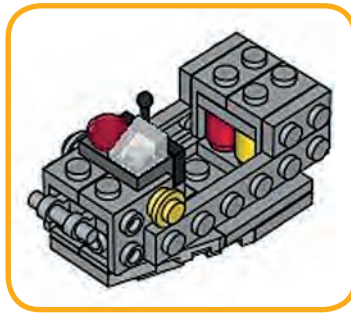
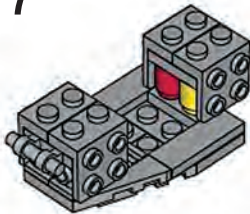
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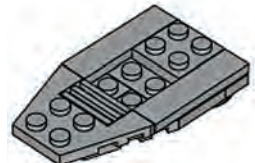
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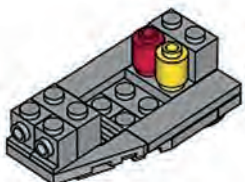
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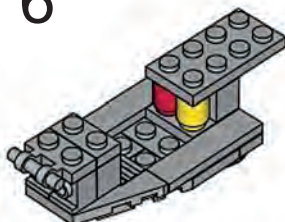
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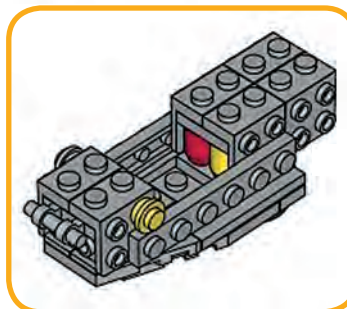
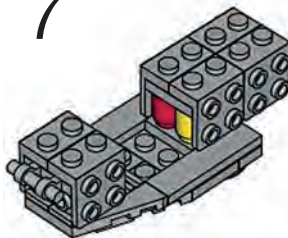
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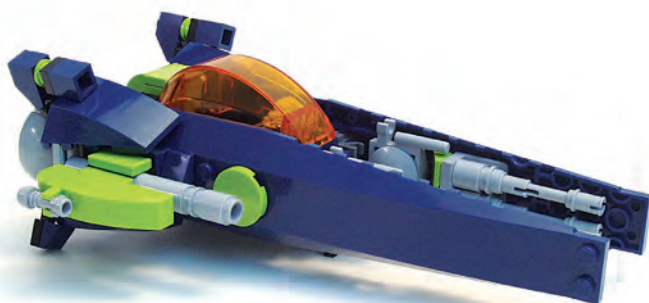


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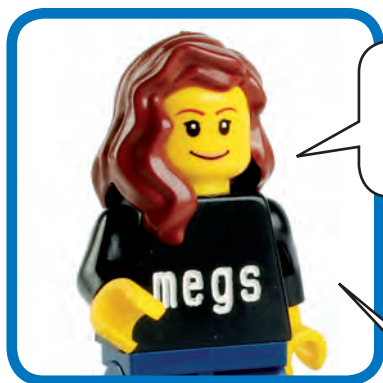


7





THESE COCKPIT INSTRUCTIONS ARE A STARTING POINT. EACH STARFIGHTER HAS SLIGHT VARIATIONS, AND THE BOXES JUST PROVIDE A FOUNDATION. THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS. JUST REMEMBER, WHEN YOU ARE DESIGNING YOUR COCKPIT BE SURE TO LEAVE ROOM FOR A PILOT!



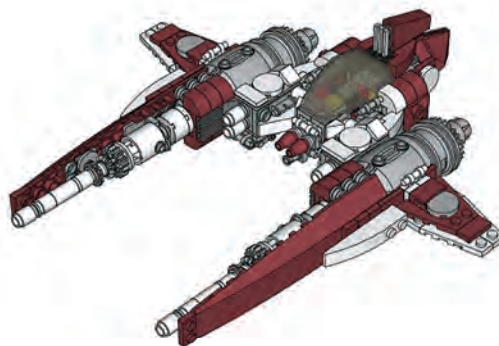
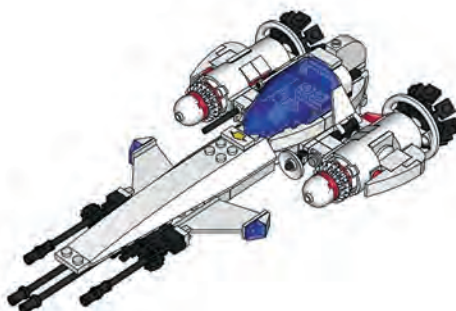
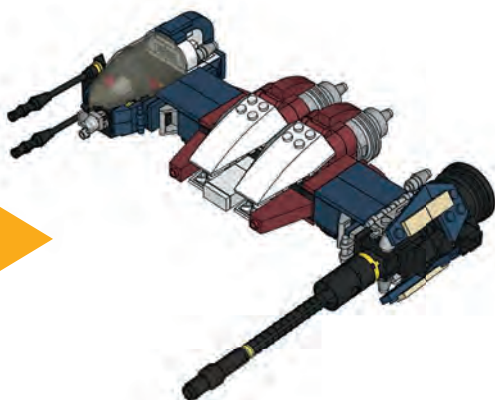
WHERE DO YOU GET THE INSPIRATION FOR YOUR FIGHTERS?

SOMETIMES I START WITH A PENCIL SKETCH; OTHER TIMES I'M INSPIRED BY SOMEONE ELSE'S LEGO MODEL OR SOME CONCEPT ART. AND SOMETIMES I JUST BUILD WITH LEGO PIECES THAT I THINK LOOK COOL.

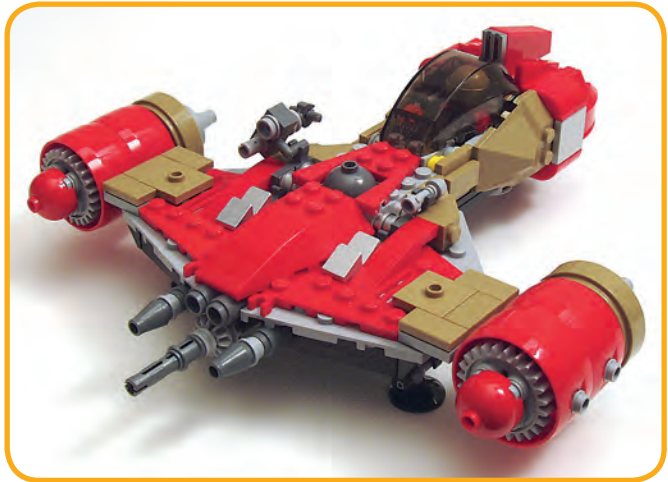
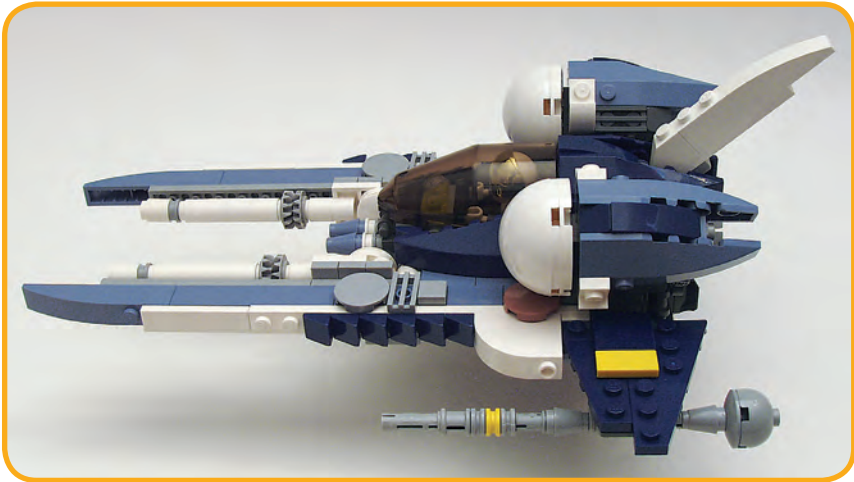


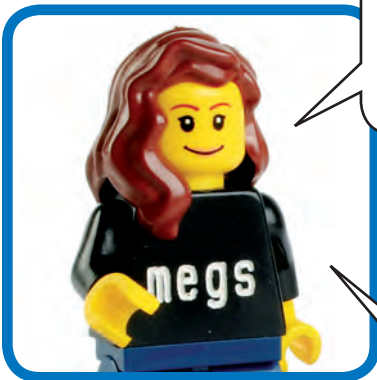
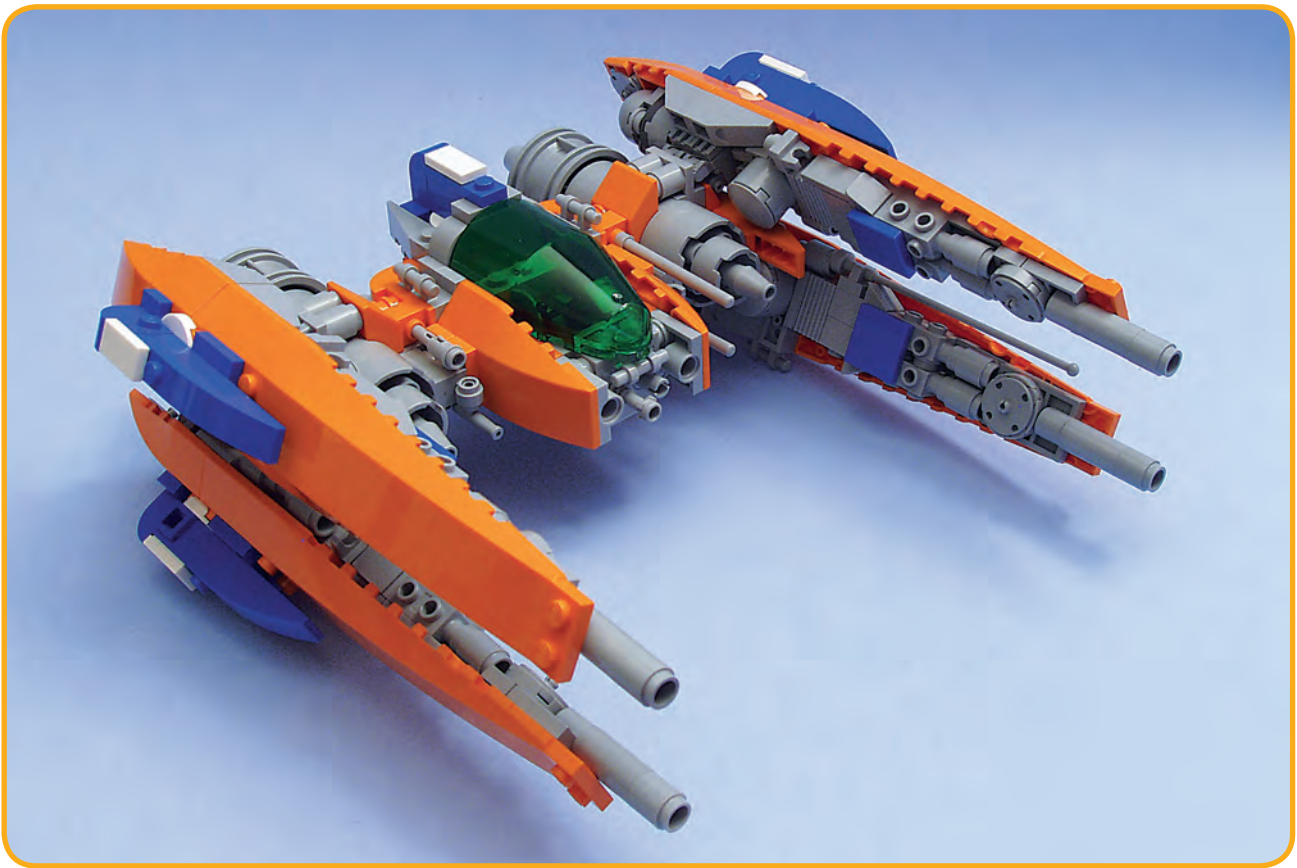
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU'RE STUMPED? DO YOU EVER GET FRUSTRATED WITH A BUILD?

ABSOLUTELY. SOMETIMES I JUST PUT AN UNFINISHED BUILD IN A DRAWER AND COME BACK TO IT LATER, BUT I NEVER GIVE UP. IF I CAN IMAGINE IT, I CAN USUALLY BUILD IT. IT'S LEGO BRICKS THAT MAKE THAT POSSIBLE!



Starfighter: Inspirational Models





THESE ARE
EPIC SHIPS!
THEY GIVE ME
LOTS OF IDEAS!

THANKS FOR
EVERYTHING,
PETER.

THANKS! IF YOU'RE LOOKING
FOR MORE SCI-FI IDEAS, YOU
SHOULD TRY VISITING MARK.
HE'S EASY TO FIND: JUST HEAD
EAST FROM HERE AND FOLLOW
THE SOUND OF BIG GUNS AND
PLASTIC BRICKS!

NO PROBLEM, MEGS.
I'M ALWAYS HAPPY TO
GIVE BUILDING ADVICE.





HI, I'M MEGS.
COOL ROBOTS!

I'M MARK, BUT THESE AREN'T
ROBOTS—THEY HAVE PILOTS.
THAT MAKES THEM MECHA,
OR MECHS, IF YOU PREFER.



NAH, MECHA IS
NEW TO A LOT
OF PEOPLE, BUT
IT'S SO MUCH FUN
TO BUILD.

OKAY, SORRY IF
I INSULTED YOU!

Mighty Mecha



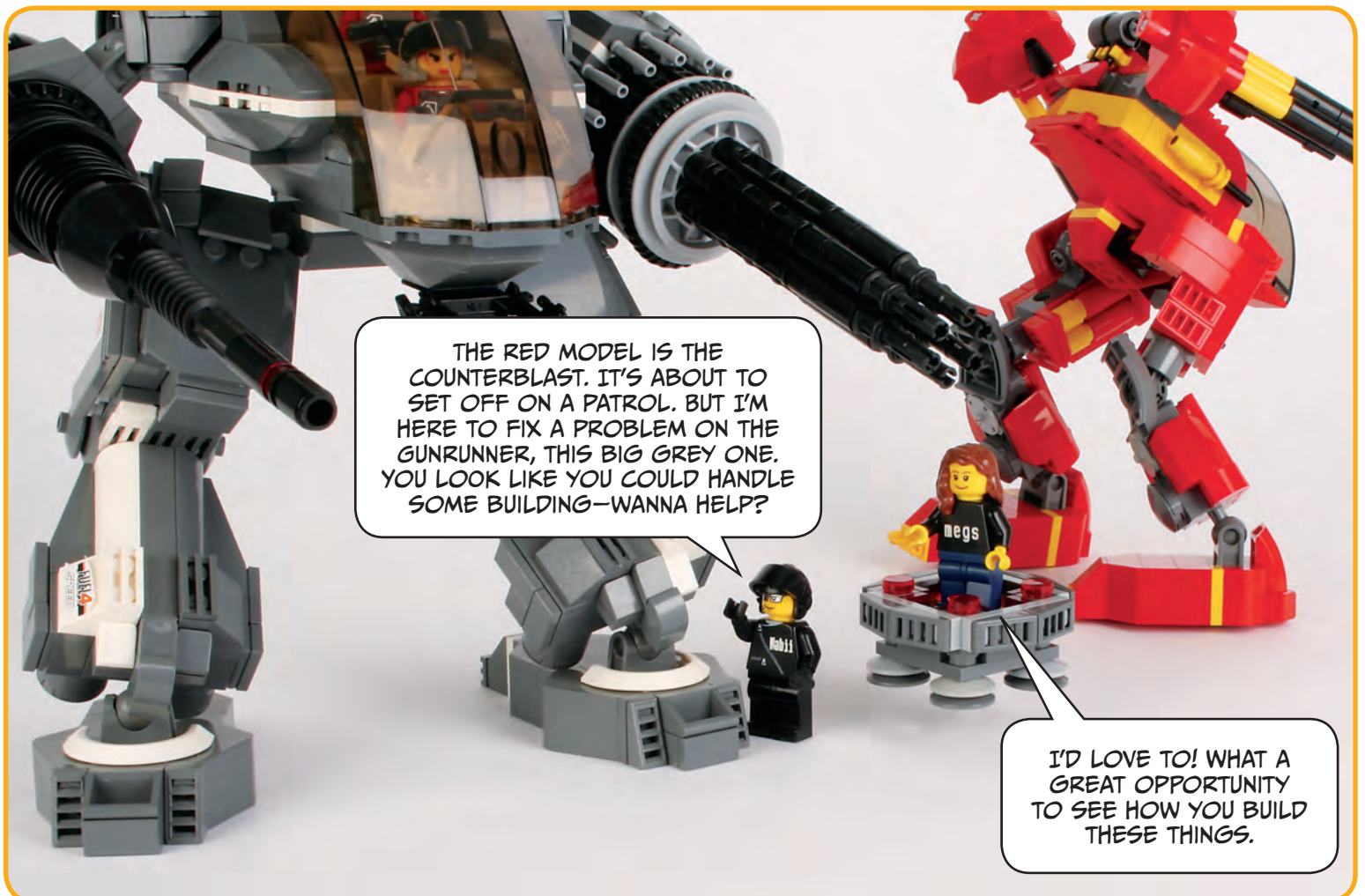
Mark Stafford

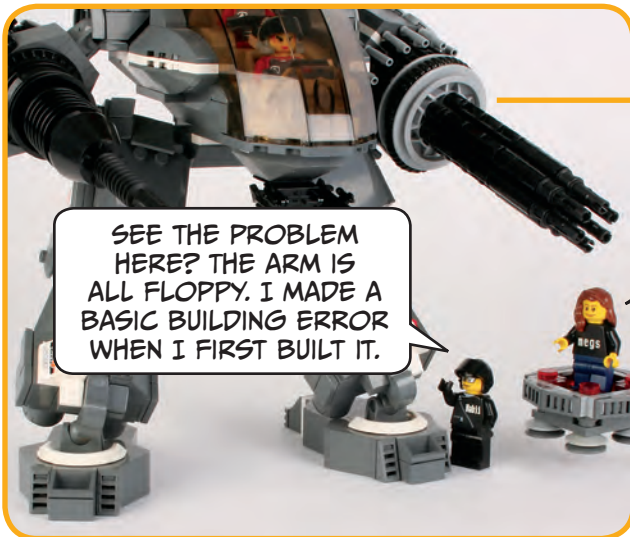
Nickname: Nabii

Profession: Designer

Nationality: British

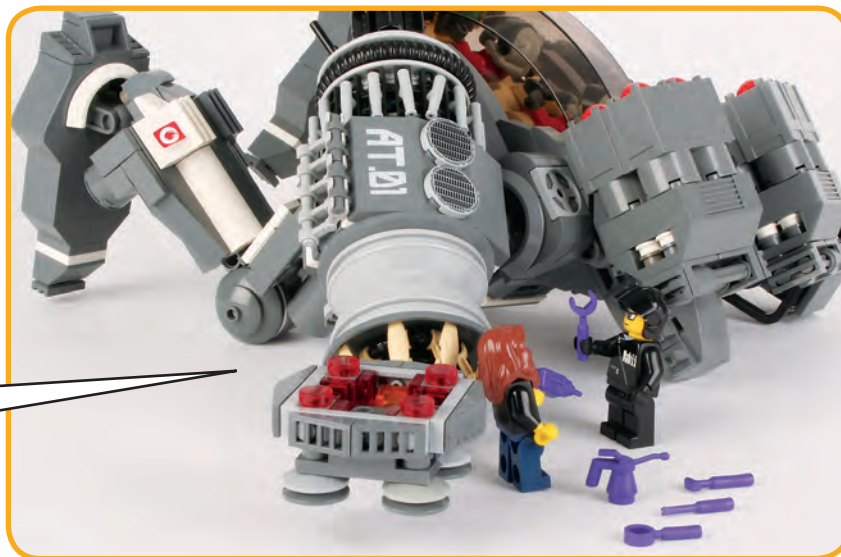
Website: www.flickr.com/photos/nabii



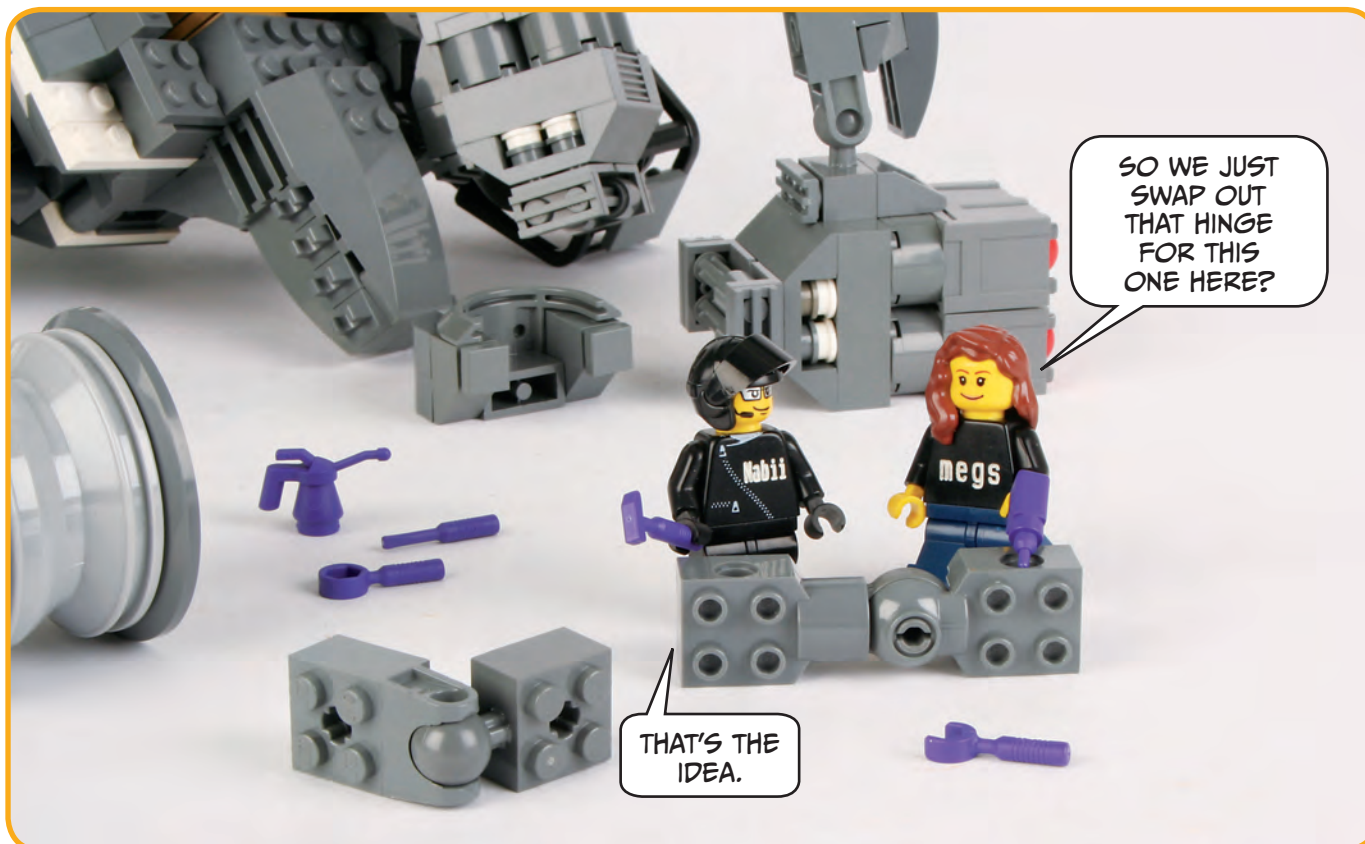


SEE THE PROBLEM HERE? THE ARM IS ALL FLOPPY. I MADE A BASIC BUILDING ERROR WHEN I FIRST BUILT IT.

YES?



I CHOSE THE WRONG HINGE FOR THE SHOULDER. NORMALLY A BALL JOINT LIKE THIS WOULD HOLD THE WEIGHT OF AN ARM, BUT THIS MECHA HAS REALLY HEAVY ARMS. I SHOULD HAVE USED ONE OF THESE CLICK HINGE BALL JOINTS INSTEAD.



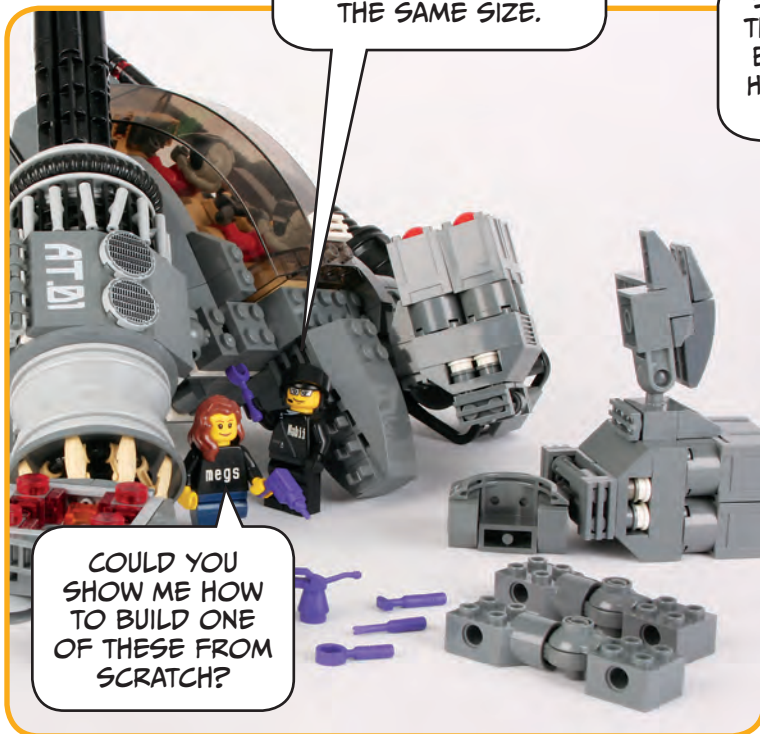
SO WE JUST SWAP OUT THAT HINGE FOR THIS ONE HERE?

THAT'S THE IDEA.

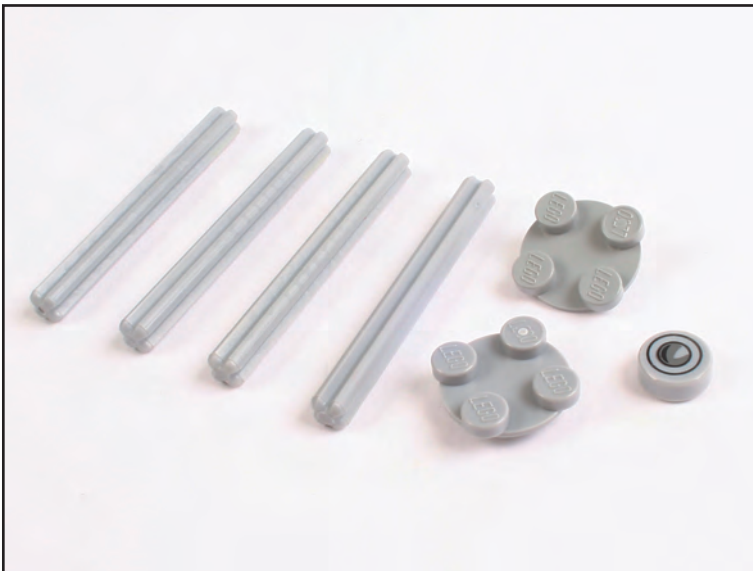
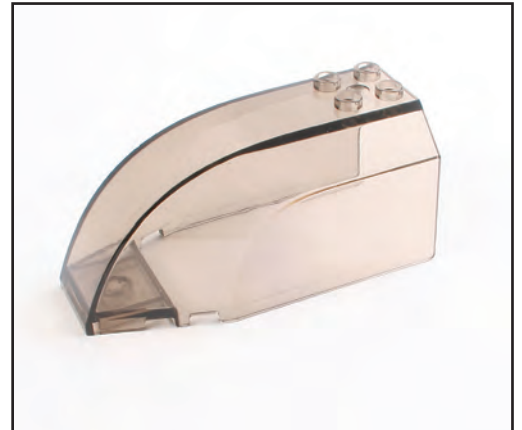
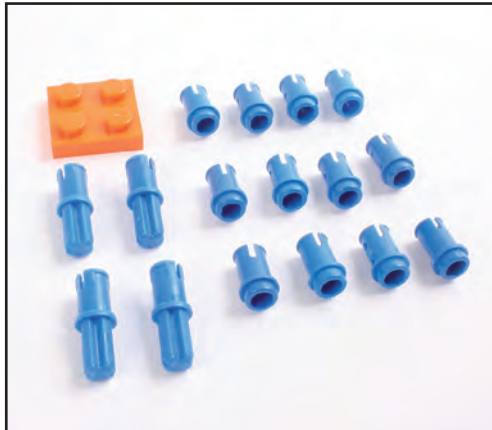


YEAH, WHAT A LUCKY BREAK. THE TWO HINGES ARE ALMOST THE SAME SIZE.

SURE. IT LOOKS LIKE THE COUNTERBLAST IS BACK FROM PATROL. HOW ABOUT BUILDING THAT ONE?

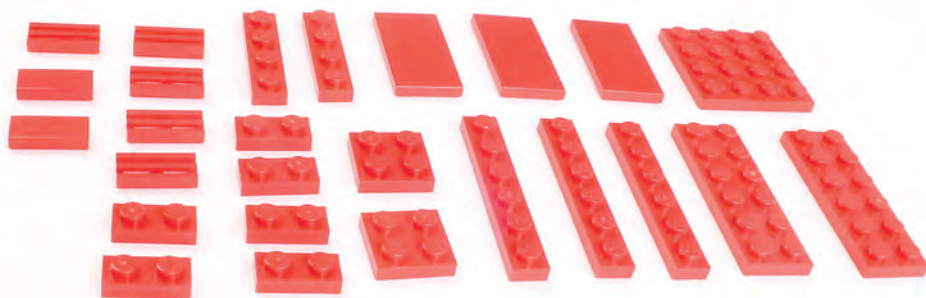


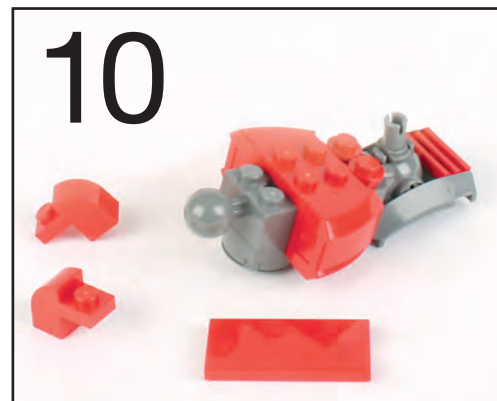
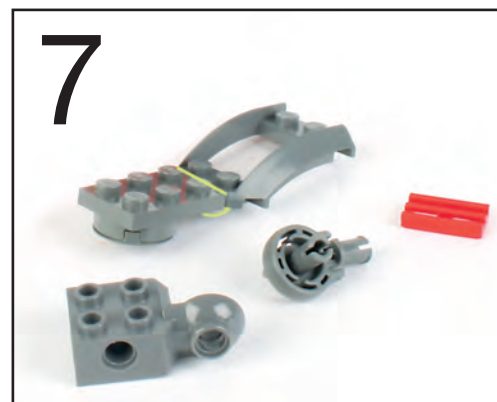
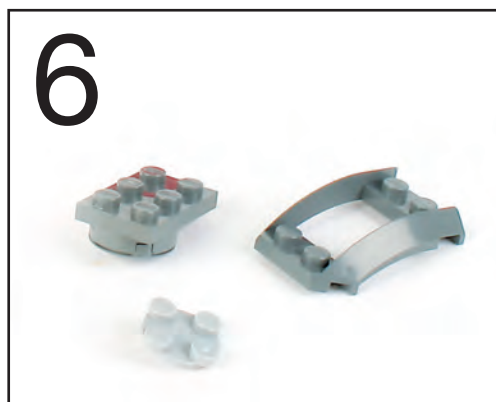
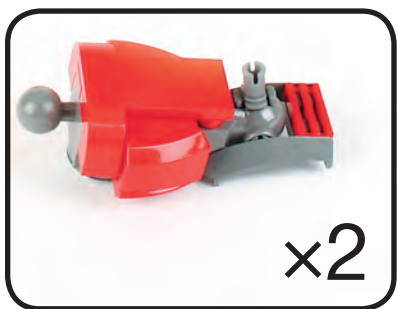
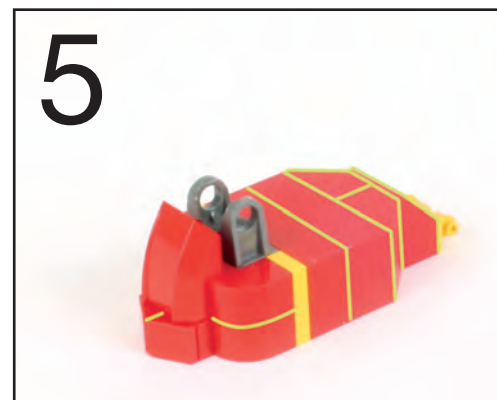
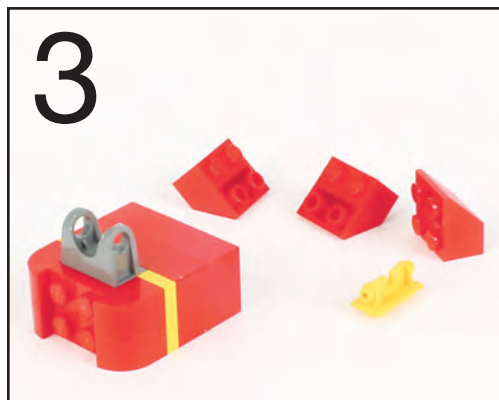
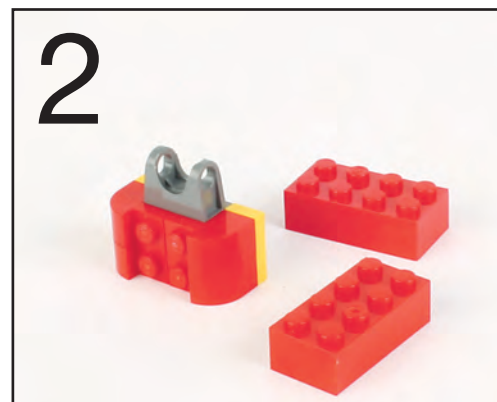
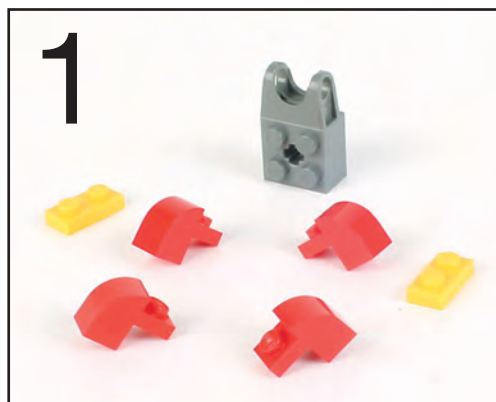
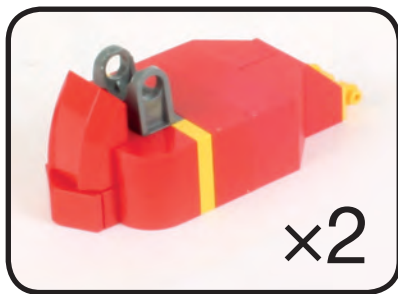
Counterblast



Building Tip

If you don't have these LEGO elements in these colors, just use whatever you have.





11



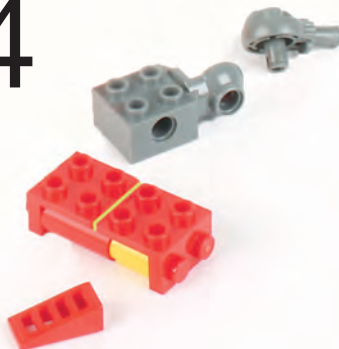
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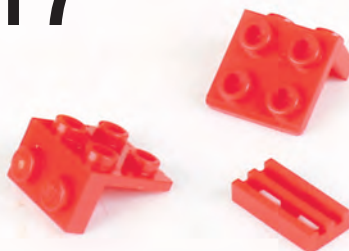
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Building Tip

Building in a stop (a point beyond which the leg will not bend) will keep the legs of your mecha strong and increase stability.



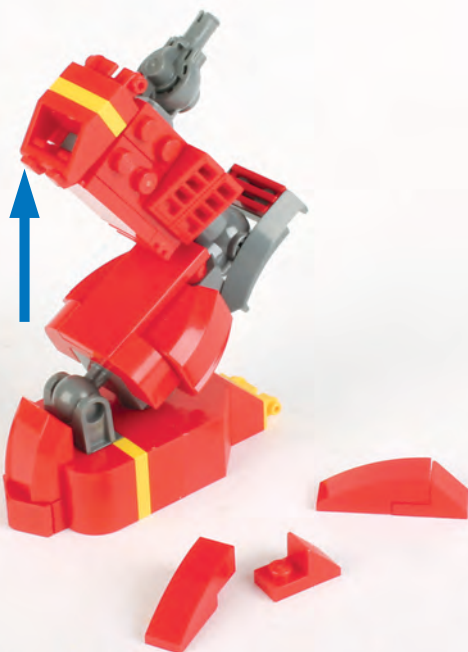
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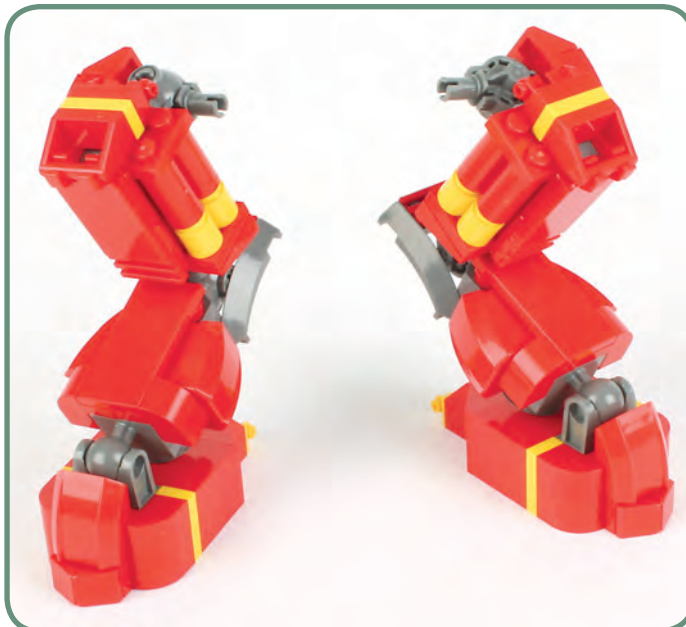
21



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NOW THAT YOU'VE BUILT THE LEFT LEG, YOU NEED TO MIRROR IT TO BUILD THE RIGHT LEG.

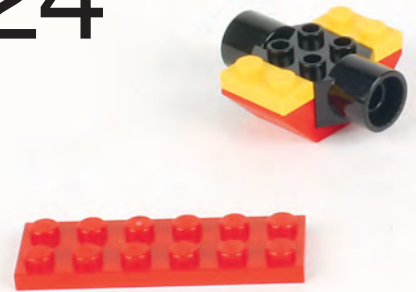




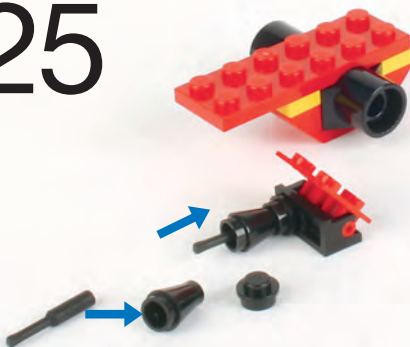
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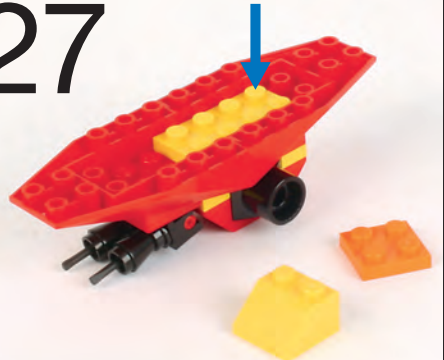
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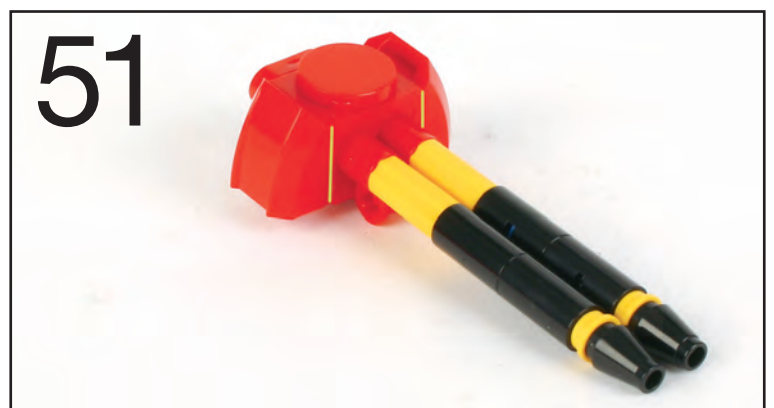
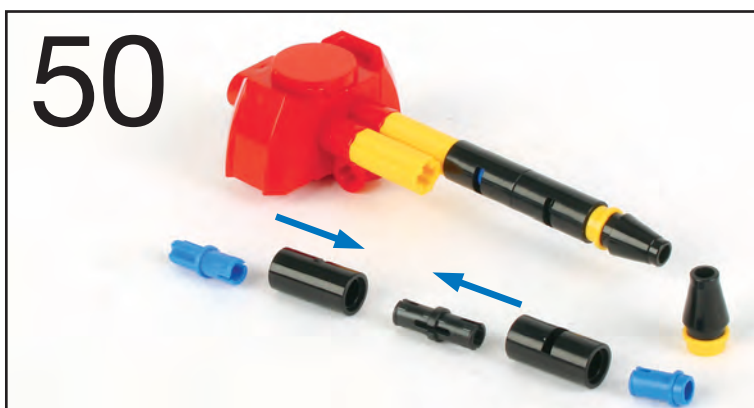
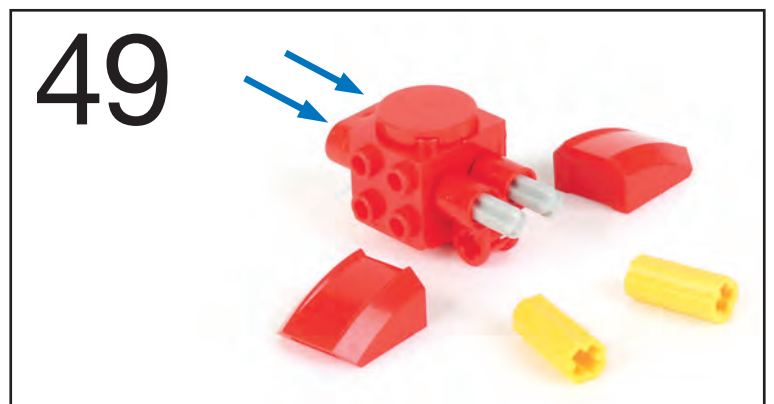
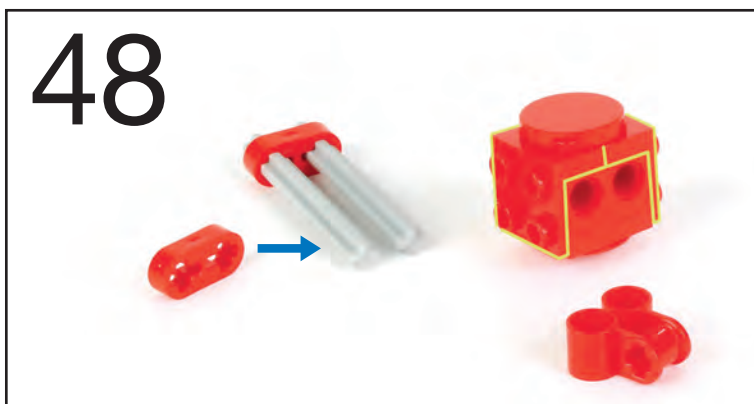
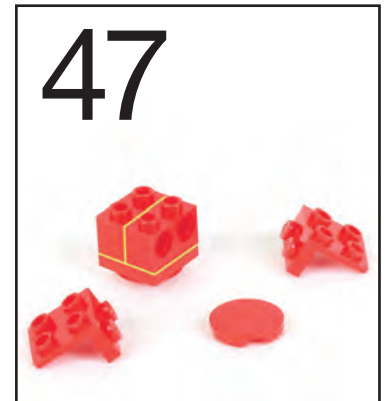
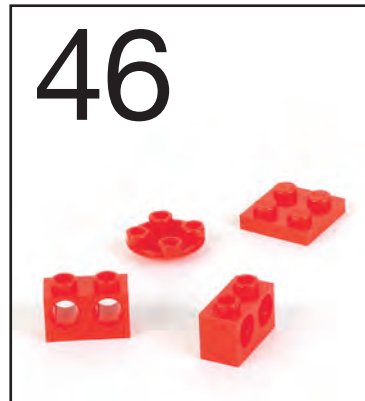
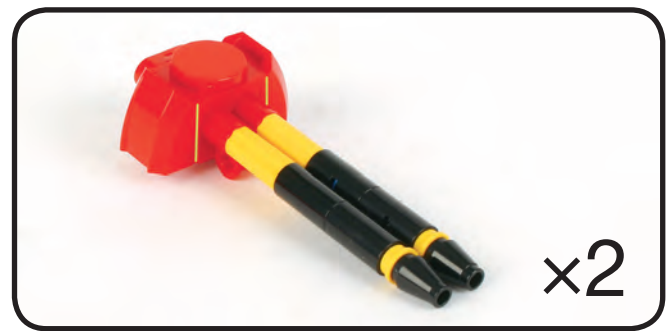
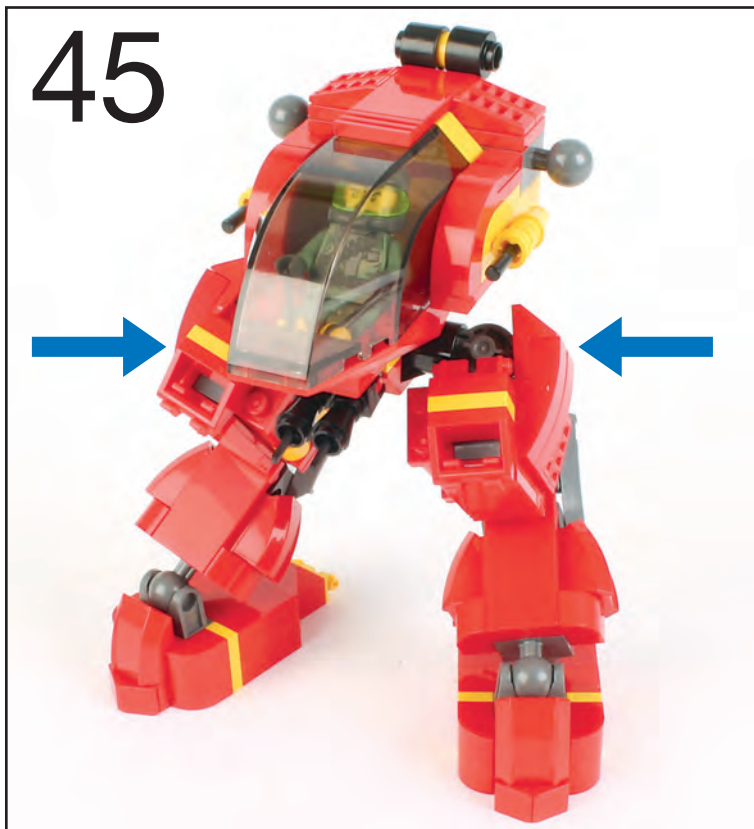


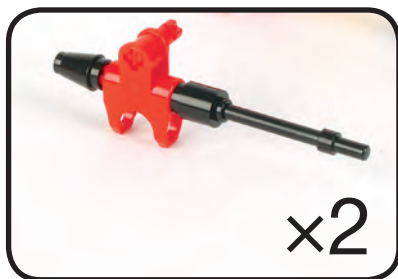
43



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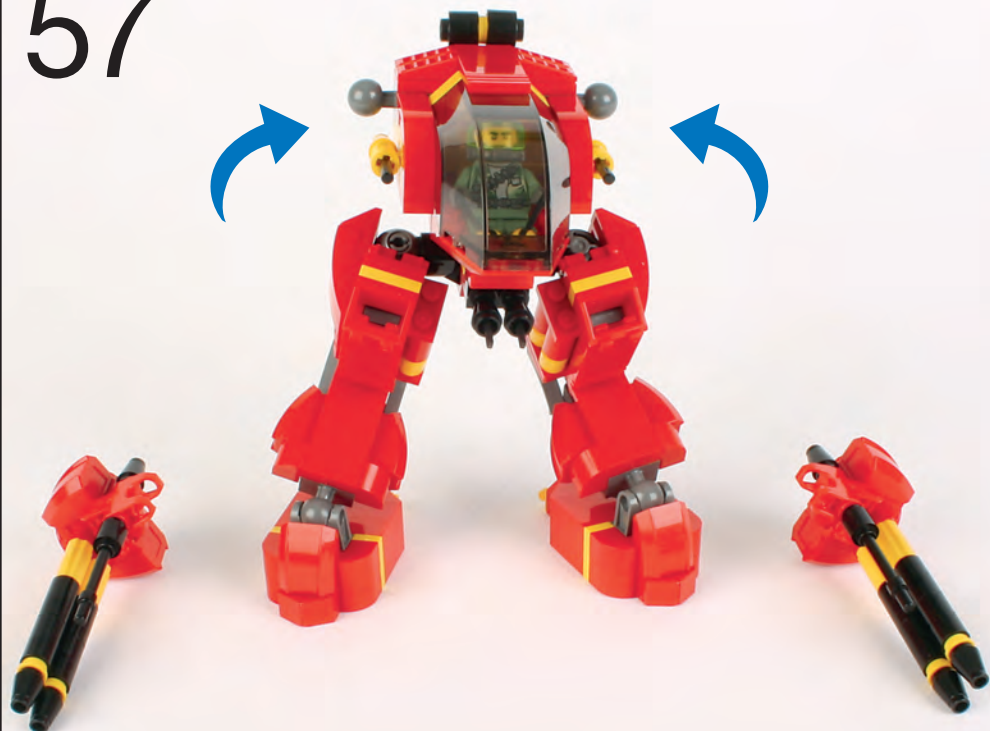
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Building Tip

Of course, your mecha doesn't have to have two identical arms. How about adding a rocket pod or a power sword instead?

YEAH, THOSE ARE SOME COOL ALTERNATIVE ARMS!



Mecha Inspiration



BUILDING JOURNAL

Mark explained to me the frame of a mecha is the most important thing to figure out. You need to plan your mecha's proportions from the start. Does it have long legs or arms? Does the pilot sit in the body, or is there a head on top? Does it have two, four, or more arms and legs? Do the knees bend backwards (like in the Counterblast), or do they work more like a human's?

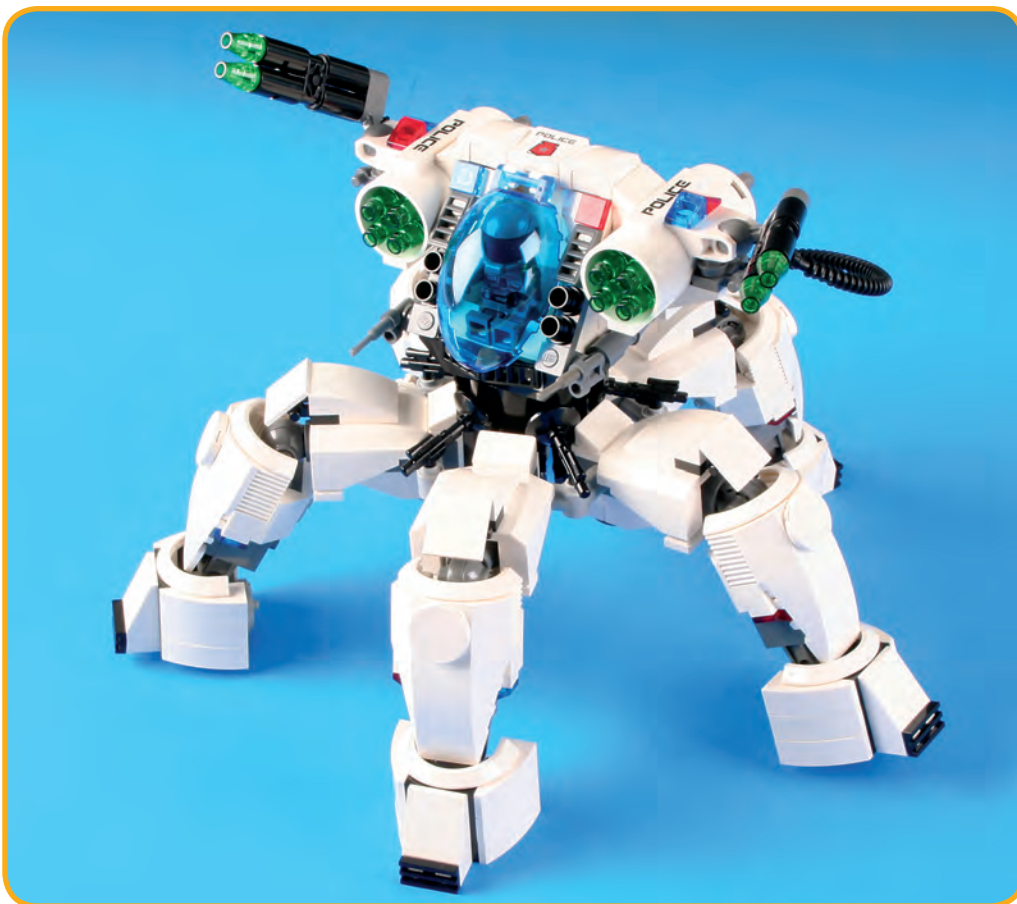
Only once you've built a basic frame is it time to decide on other key aspects, like whether it will be heavily armored and slow or lightly armored and fleet footed. But mecha aren't all military. They can be walking forklifts, farming mecha, or even racing mechs. I wonder what my Transport-o-lux would look like with legs?



Building Tip

Try finding LEGO parts that fit with the theme of your mecha. These small details add a lot of character to your model.





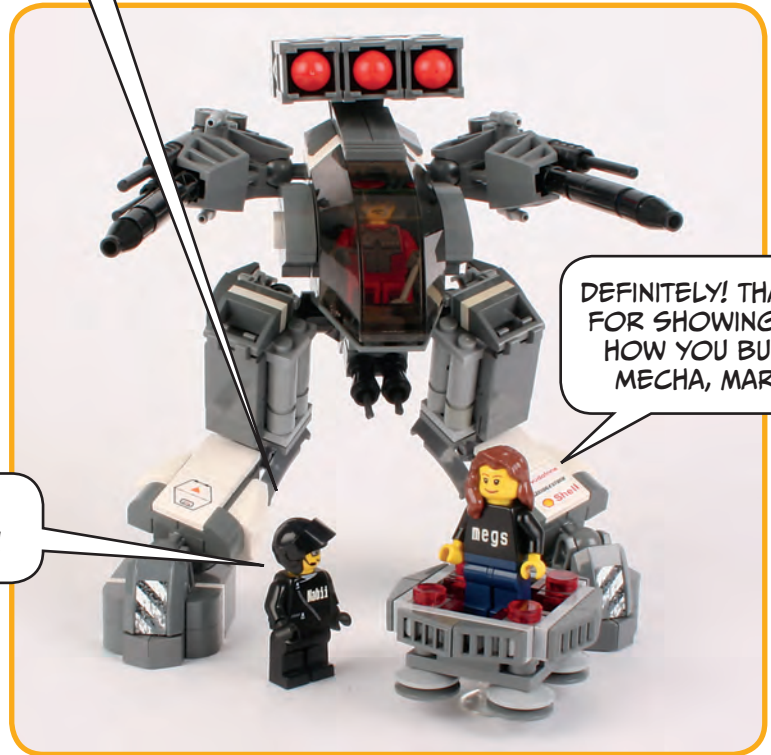
Building Tip

You can break up color schemes by adding accent colors. Try creating stripes or blocks of color.





THIS GREY COUNTERBLAST
WAS THE FIRST ONE I BUILT.
I THINK THE DESIGN IS
STRONG ENOUGH TO BUILD
IN WHICHEVER LEGO BRICK
COLORS YOU HAVE.



DEFINITELY! THANKS
FOR SHOWING ME
HOW YOU BUILD
MECHA, MARK.

MY
PLEASURE!

Megs, I've been tinkering
with your space-time
controls. I think I can
beam you to a builder in
another time period.

REALLY, BRICKBOT?
LET'S DO IT!

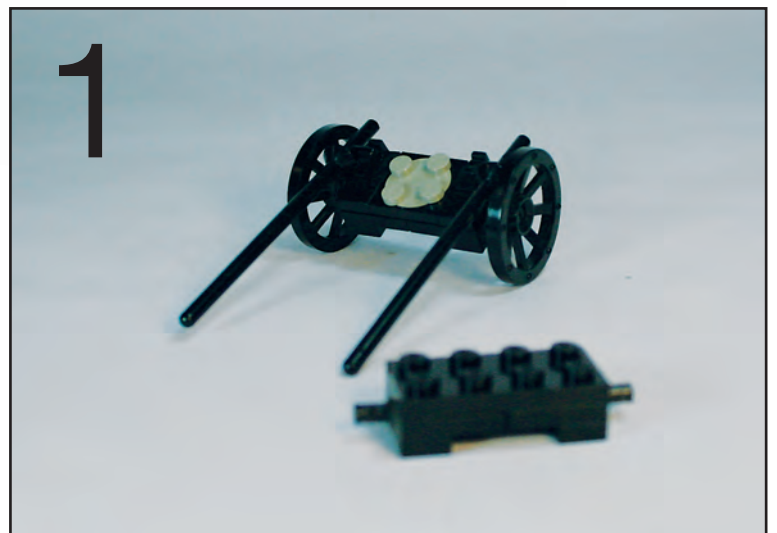
TAKE CARE, MEGS.
COME BACK
SOMETIME, AND I'LL
SHOW YOU SOME OF
MY STARSHIPS!



I WILL.
PROMISE.



Merchant Wagon



Medieval Village



Aaron Andrews

Nickname: DARKspawn

Profession: Music Teacher

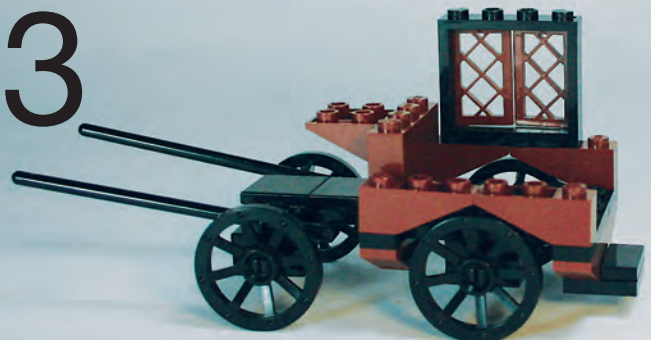
Nationality: Australian

Websites: www.flickr.com/photos/darkspawn/
www.brickshelf.com/cgi-bin/gallery.cgi?m=DARKspawn

2



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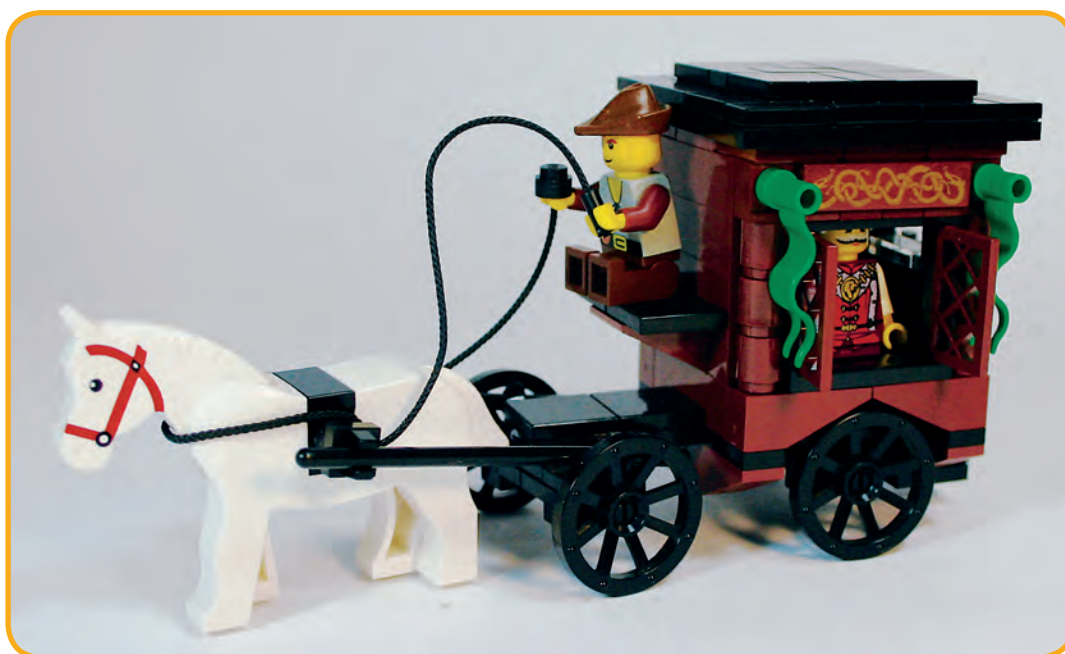


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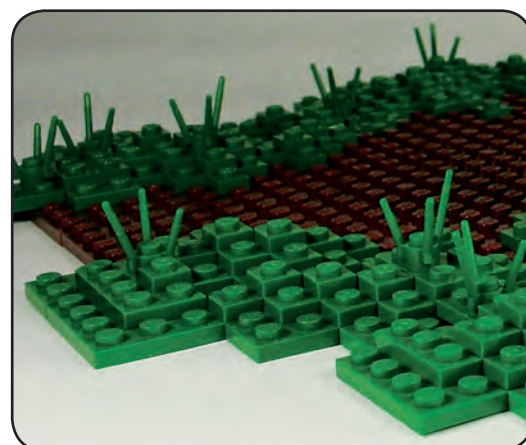


5



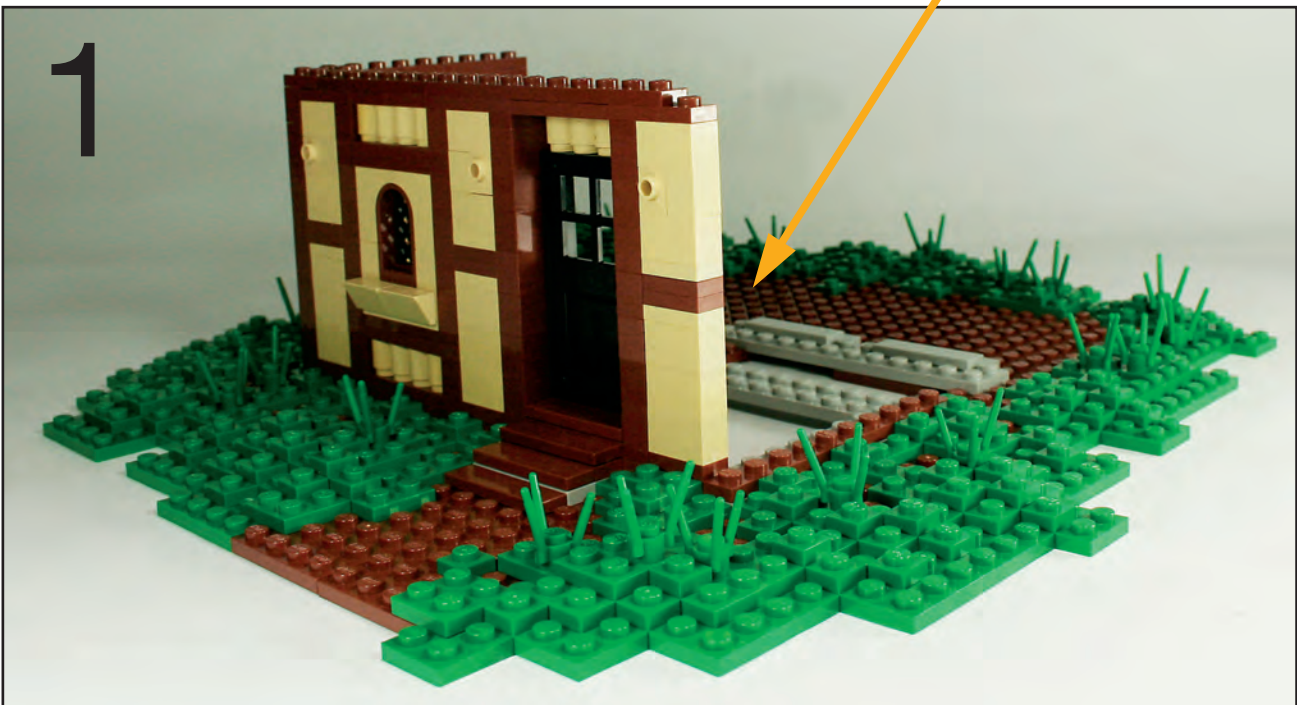


NOW LET'S BUILD A BUTCHER SHOP. FIRST, CREATE SOME LAND BY STACKING LEGO PLATES ON TOP OF ONE ANOTHER.





Butcher Shop



2



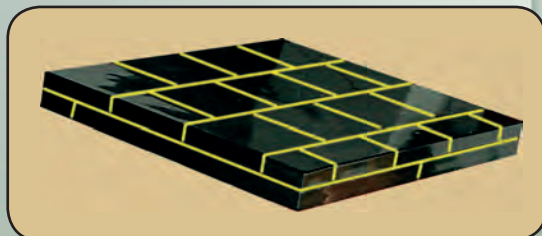
3



4

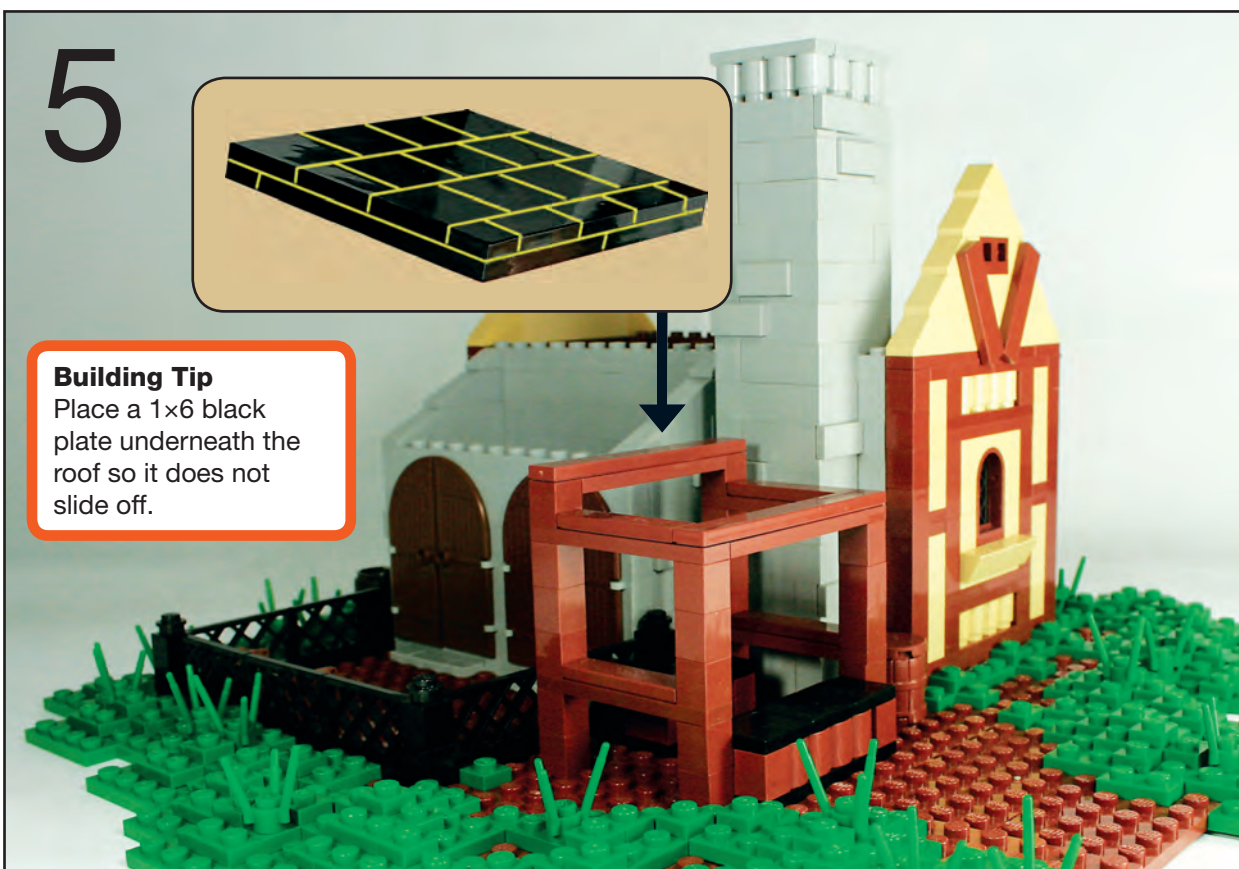


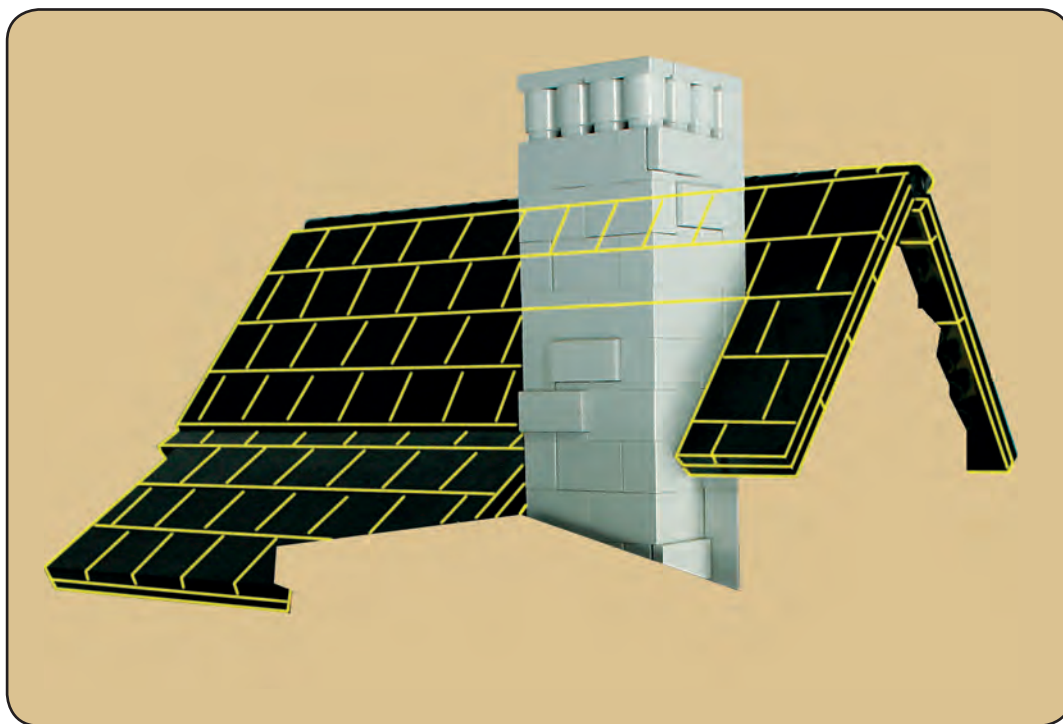
5



Building Tip

Place a 1×6 black plate underneath the roof so it does not slide off.







BUILDING JOURNAL

Texture is very important for adding detail to your models. There are several LEGO bricks with patterns in them, and you can use these to give your models a more realistic look. Aaron has also added interest to his stone walls by placing tiles sideways so they look like bricks sticking out of the stonework. He has also laid out the tiles on the roof to look like square slates, just like on a real old building!



Harold's House



Hilltop Tower

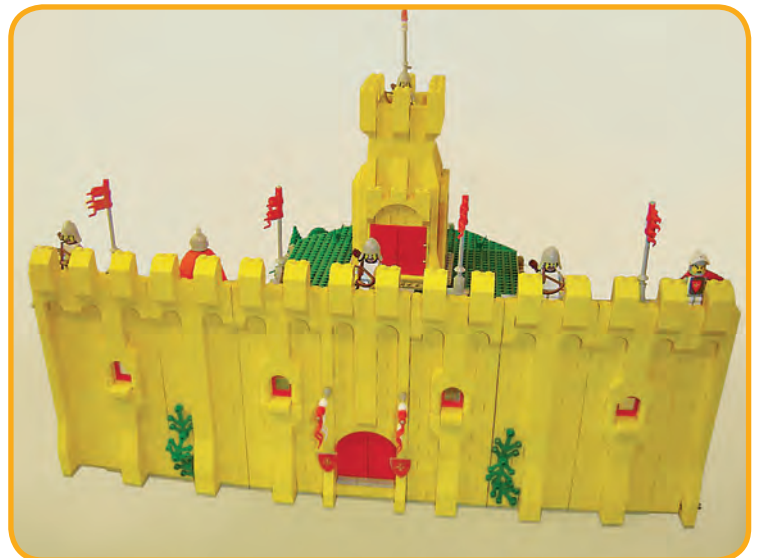
THIS YELLOW TOWER REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING FROM WHEN I WAS YOUNGER...

YES, IT'S A TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST EVER LEGO CASTLE MODEL: THE CLASSIC YELLOW CASTLE. I HAD IT AS A CHILD.



OH, YES! ME TOO!

IF YOU EVER MEET THE ORIGINAL DESIGNER ON YOUR TRAVELS, TELL HIM HOW MANY OF US HE INSPIRED!





BUILDING JOURNAL

I noticed in Aaron's medieval models that the LEGO black and brown colors both represent wood. This technique adds visual detail simply by using color. If he had used just brown or just black, his models would have been very bland. In his market model, for example, I can see how he separates the browns of the ground from the browns of the wooden beams in the town well by using light grey "stone" tiles to break things up.

Medieval Market



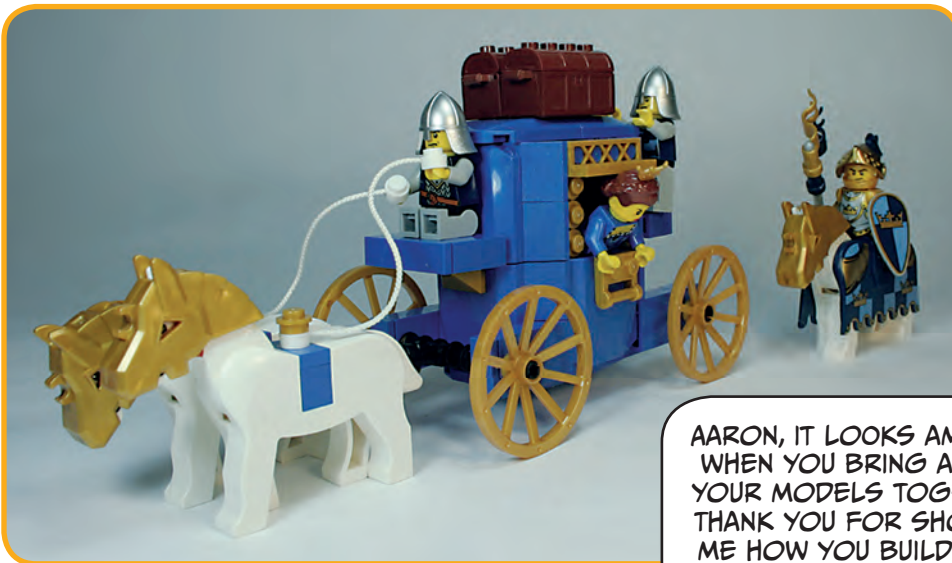
Woodman's Cottage



HERE IS A SIMPLE WOODSMAN'S COTTAGE. ADDING SMALL OUTBUILDINGS HELPS GROW YOUR MEDIEVAL VILLAGE.

REMEMBER WHEN BUILDING IN THE MIDDLE AGES THEME TO SHOW ANIMALS, FLAGS, FENCES, TREES, AND OTHER DETAIL ELEMENTS TO MAKE YOUR MODELS LOOK MORE AUTHENTIC.





AARON, IT LOOKS AMAZING WHEN YOU BRING ALL OF YOUR MODELS TOGETHER. THANK YOU FOR SHOWING ME HOW YOU BUILD YOUR MEDIEVAL MODELS.

IT WAS FUN, MEGS. WHERE ARE YOU HEADING NOW?

FURTHER BACK IN TIME, I THINK. BYE, AARON!



FARE THEE WELL, FAIR MAIDEN!

RRROOOAARRRR!

AHH! HE'S GONNA
EAT ME!

WOW, WHAT A
BEAUTY! AND
SUCH LOVELY
STRIPES!

HI, I'M MEGS.
WHERE DID THIS
STUNNING CREATURE
COME FROM?

ROOAOOH?

OH, HE'S CALMED DOWN
NOW. HE MUST LIKE YOU.
I'M MIKE. I BUILT HIM MYSELF,
BUT I SHOULD HAVE MADE
A CAGE FOR HIM FIRST.

YOU BUILT HIM?
THAT'S AMAZING!
DO YOU HAVE ANY
OTHER DINOSAURS?

OH YEAH, THERE'S A
PTEROSAUR, A BRACHIOSAURUS,
AND A STEGOSAURUS. I LOVE
BUILDING THESE GUYS.

Triassic Park



Mike Psiaki

Nickname: Psiaki

Profession: Mechanical Engineer

Nationality: American

Website: www.flickr.com/photos/pmiaki



I BET THEY CAN RUN
QUITE FAST. MAYBE YOU
SHOULD BUILD A VEHICLE
TO KEEP UP WITH THEM.

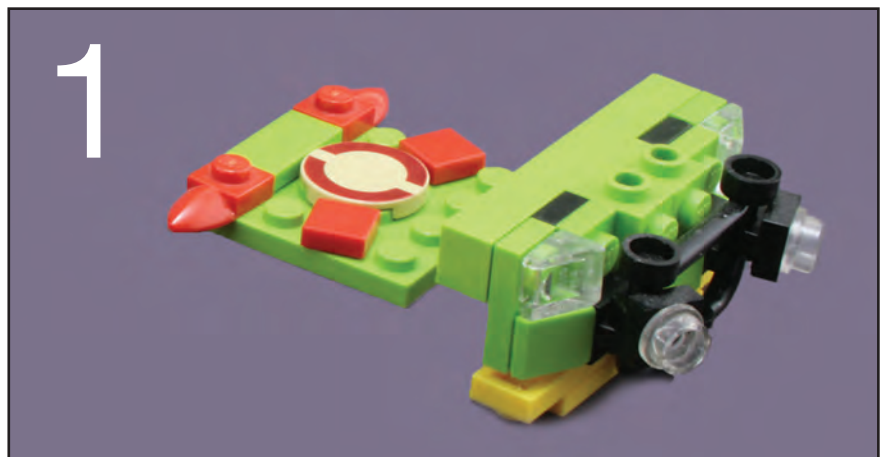
GREAT IDEA.
LET'S BUILD A
SAFARI TRUCK!

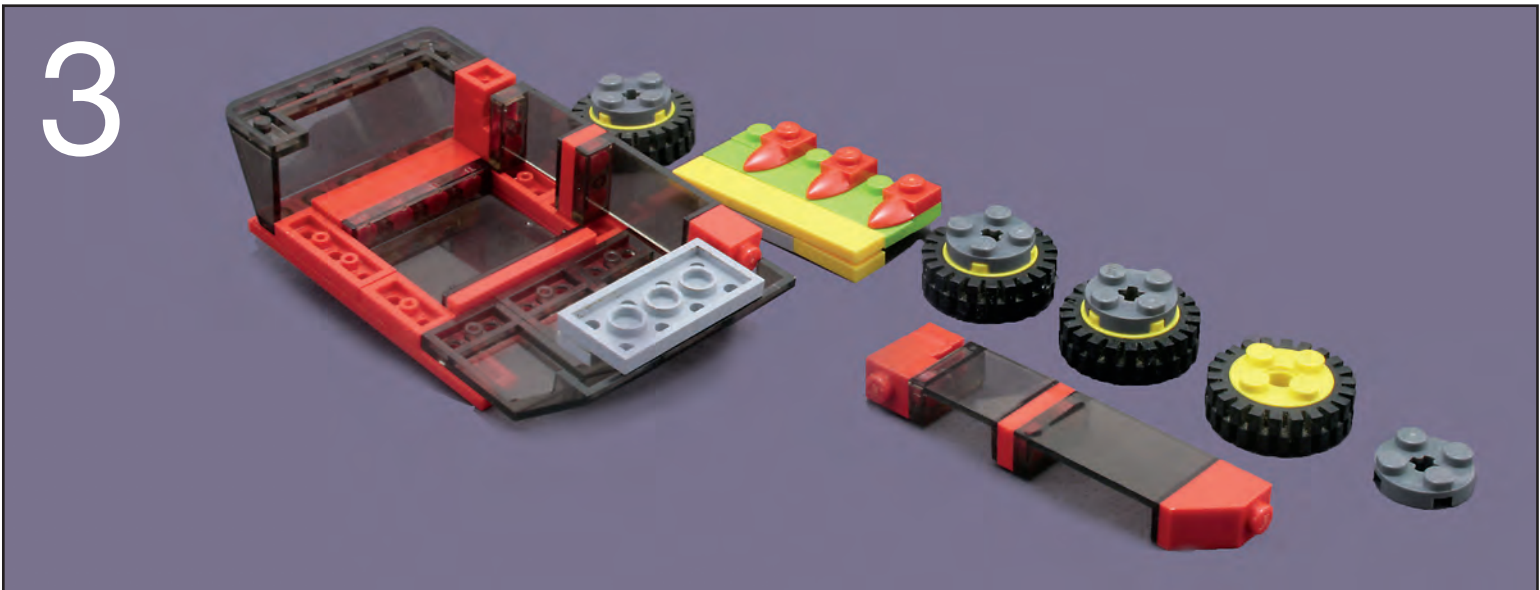
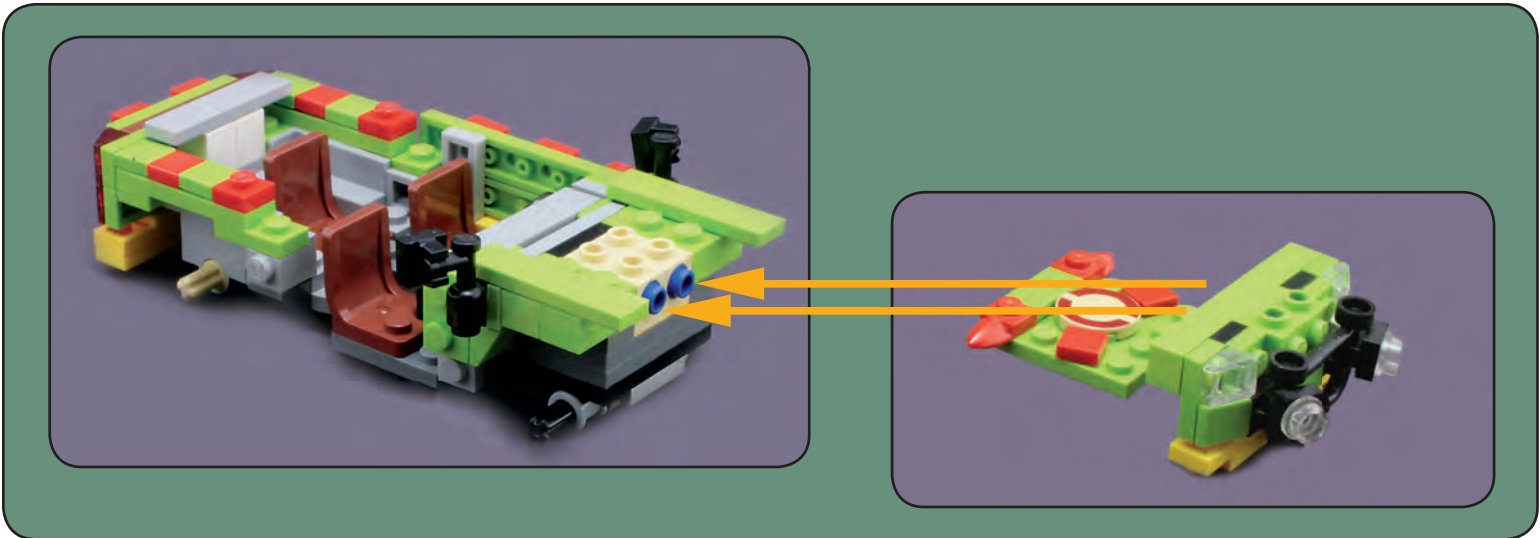
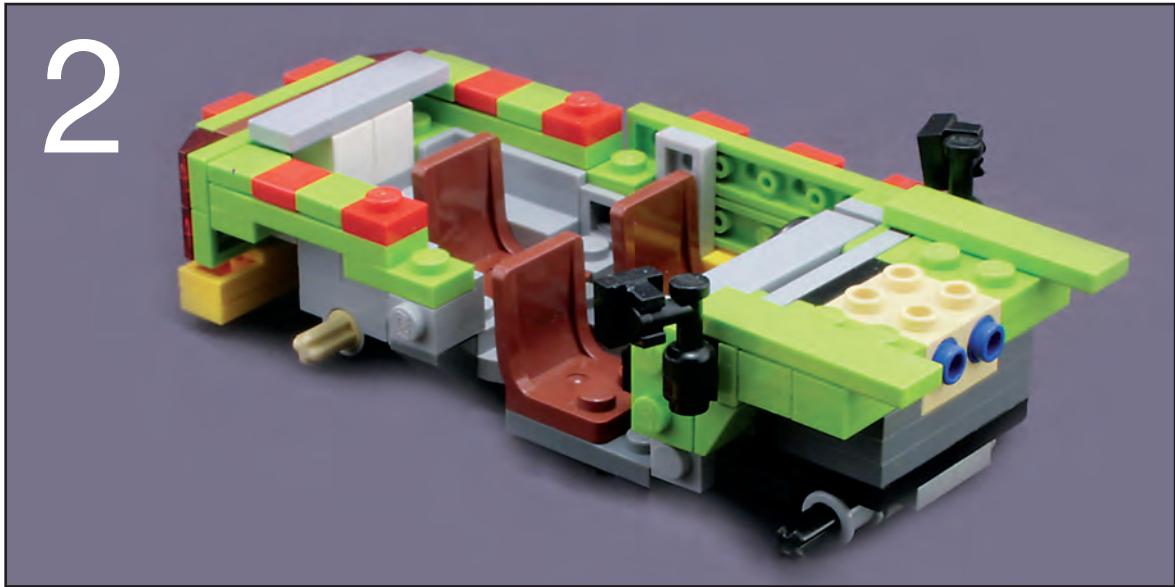


Building Tip

Both sides of the truck
are symmetrical, so think
carefully about how the
model is built. Study the
parts you can see to figure
out the parts you can't see.

Safari Truck

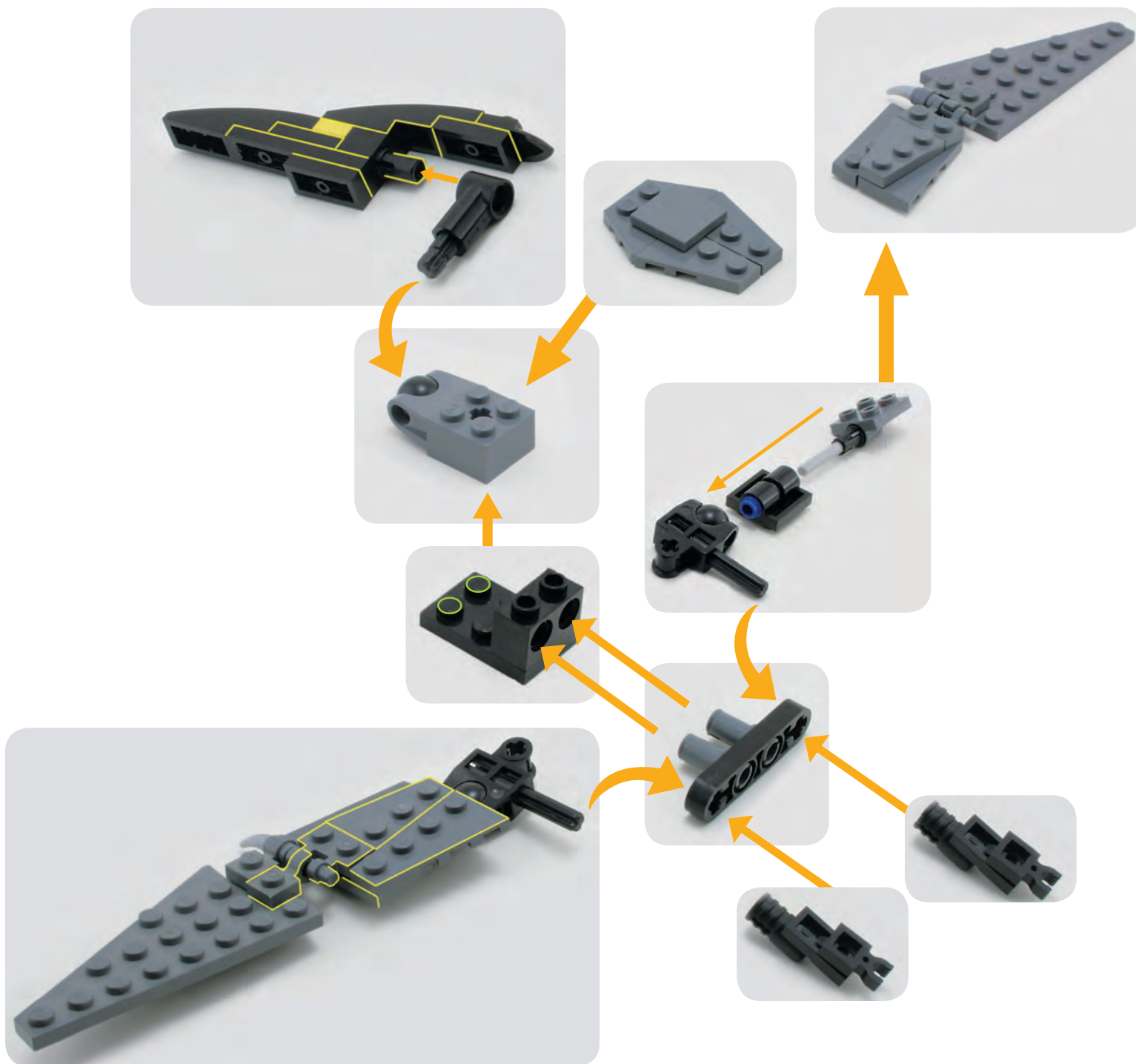






Pterosaur



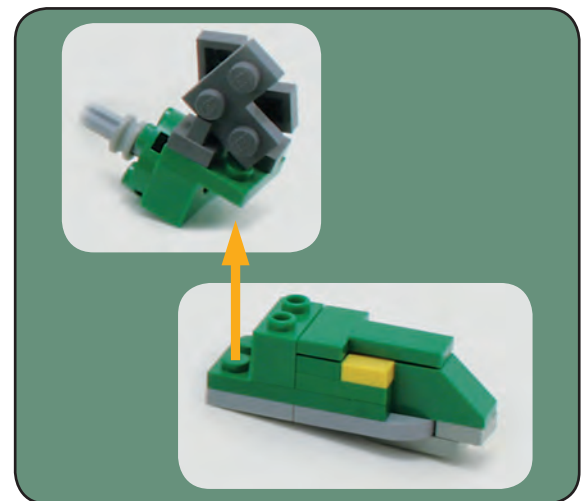
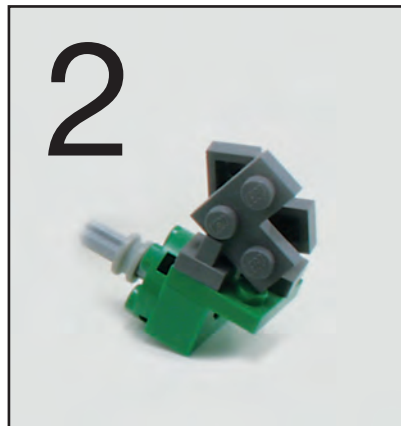
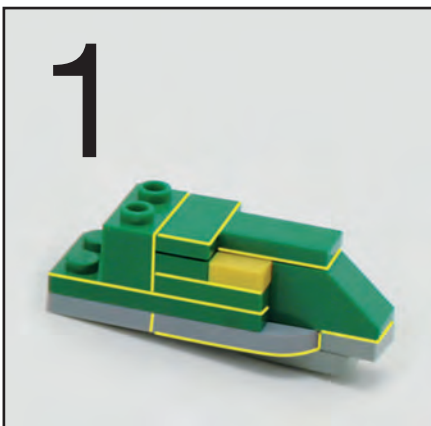


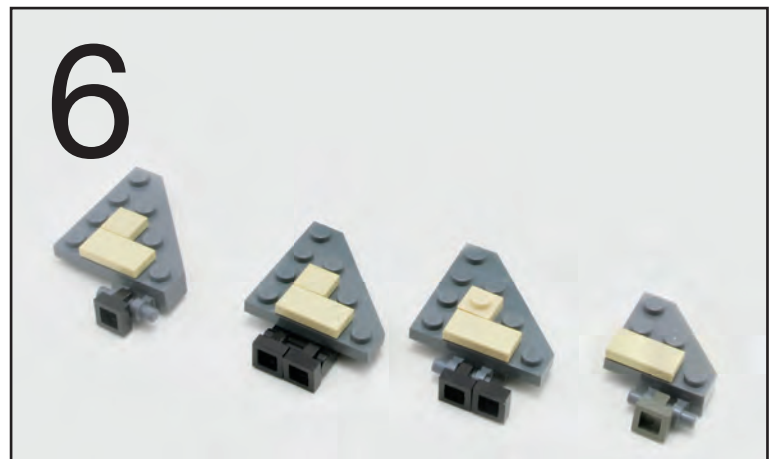
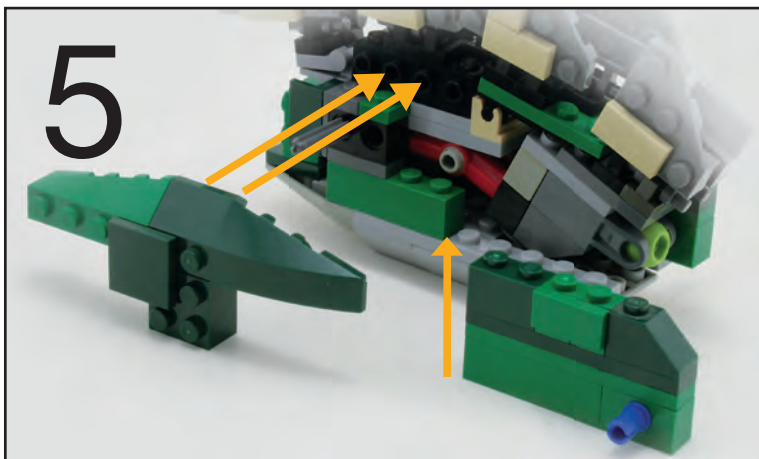
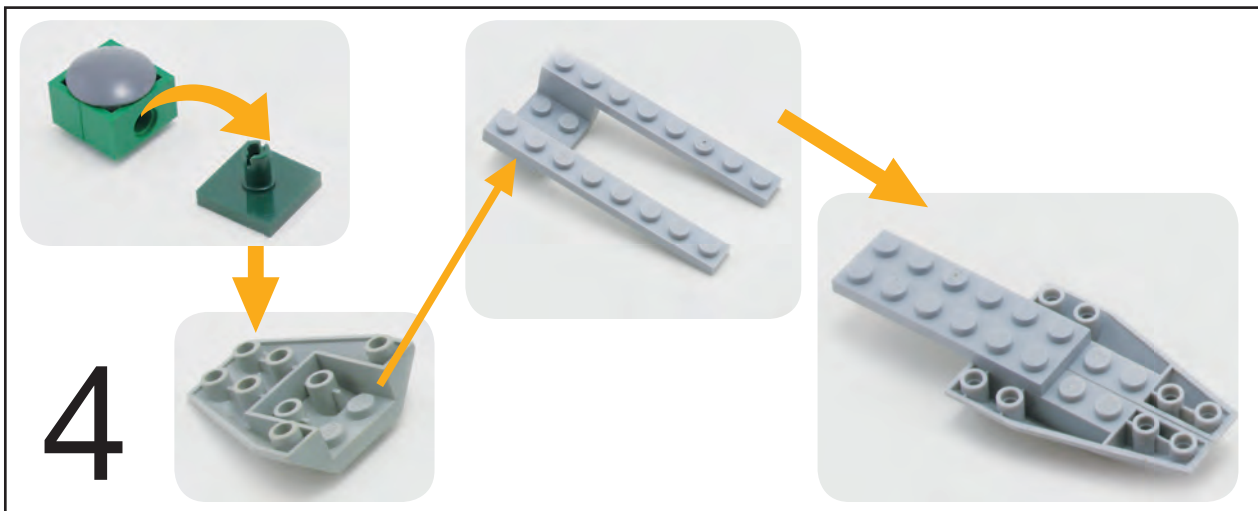
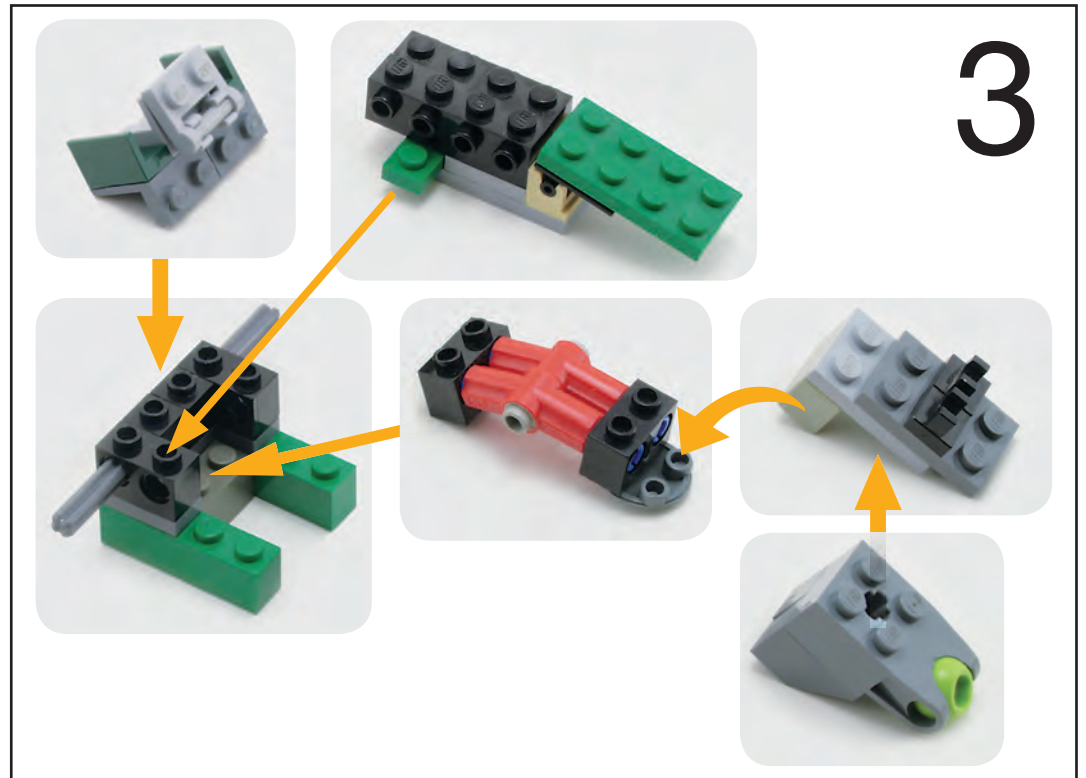


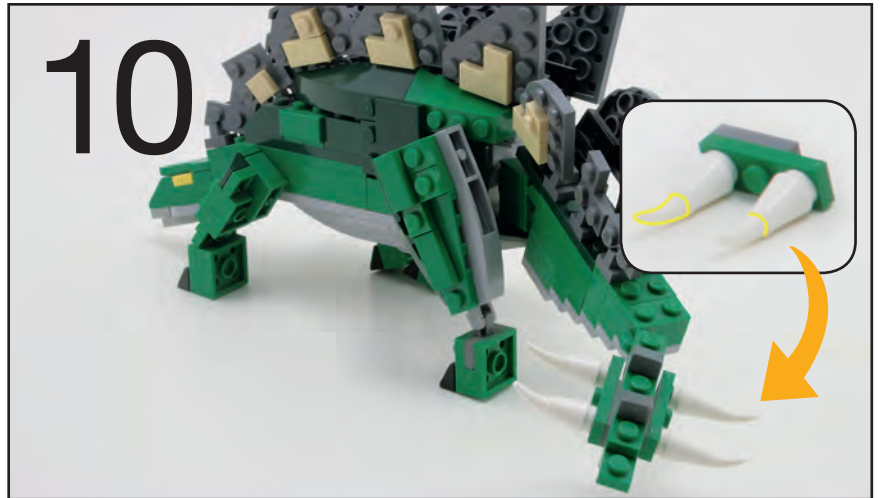
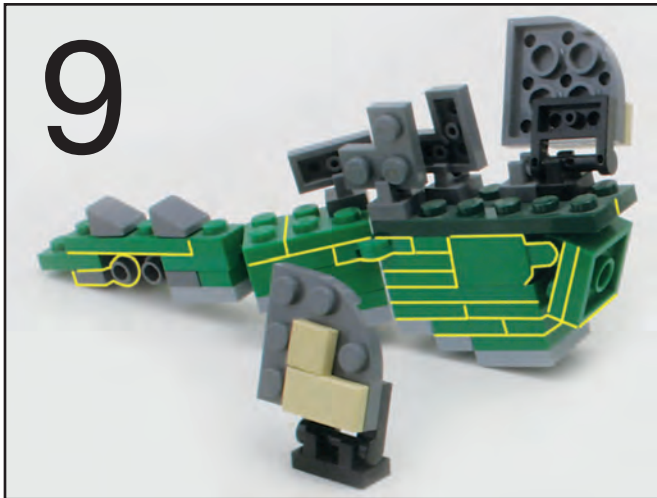
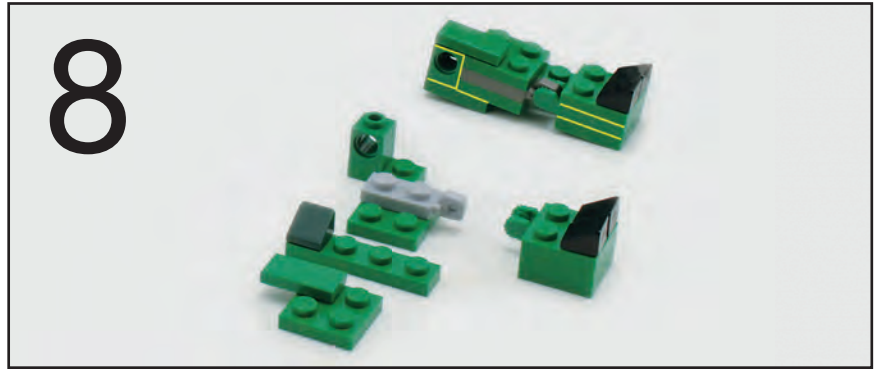
Stegosaurus



THE STEGOSAURUS IS A MORE COMPLICATED BUILD. LET'S START WITH HIS HEAD.







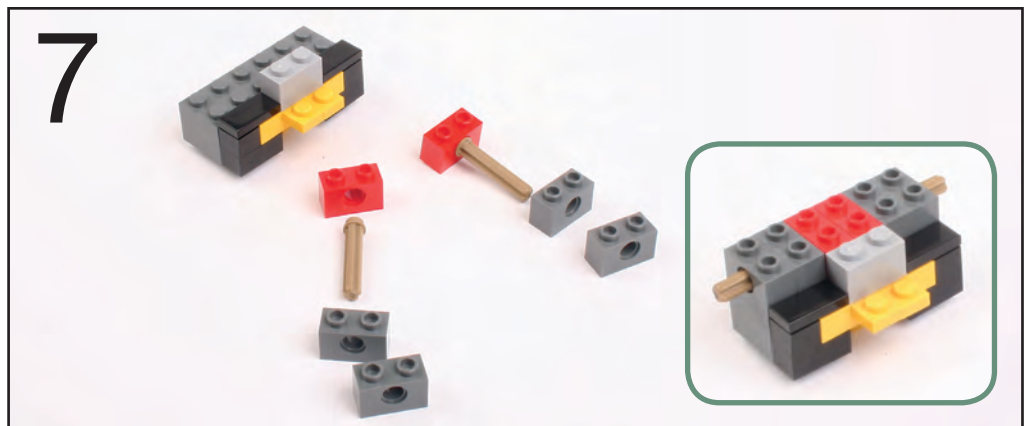
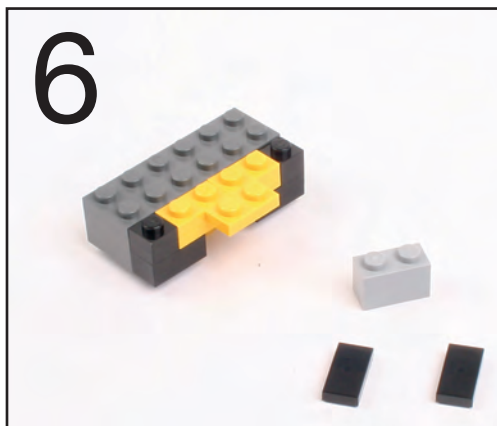
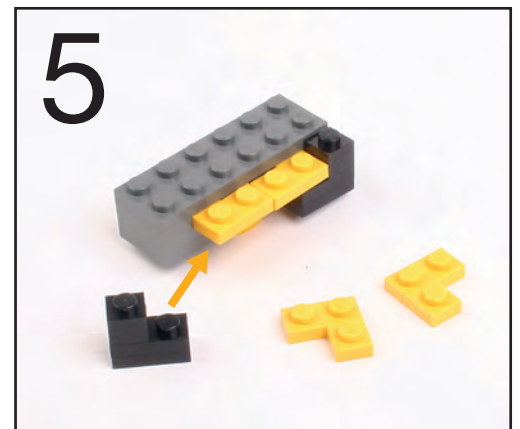
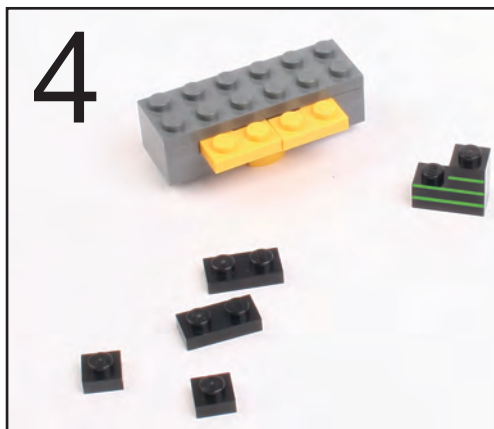
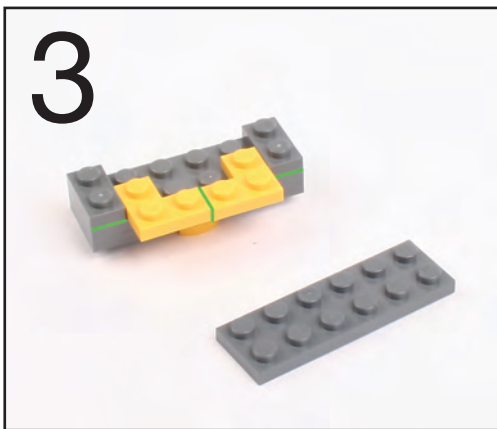
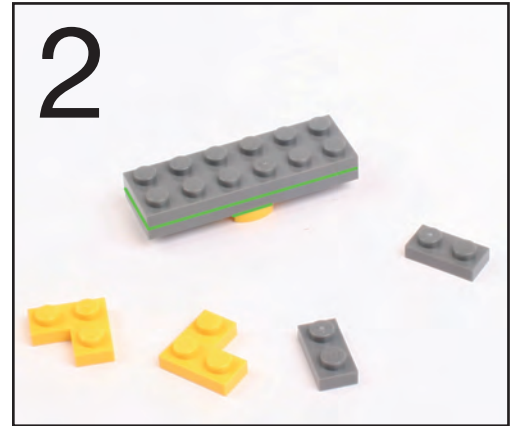
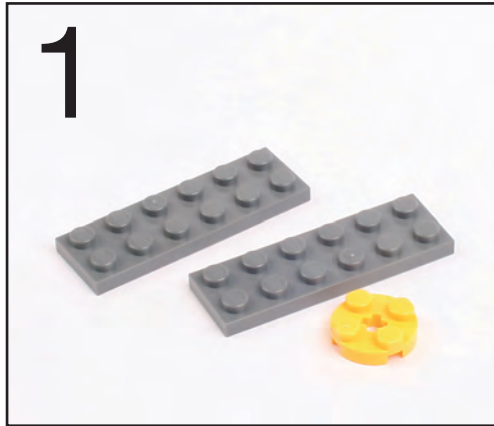
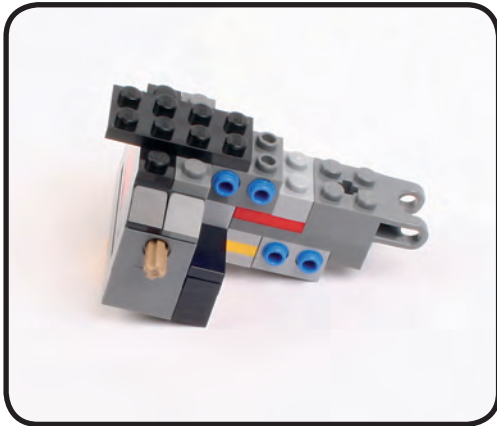


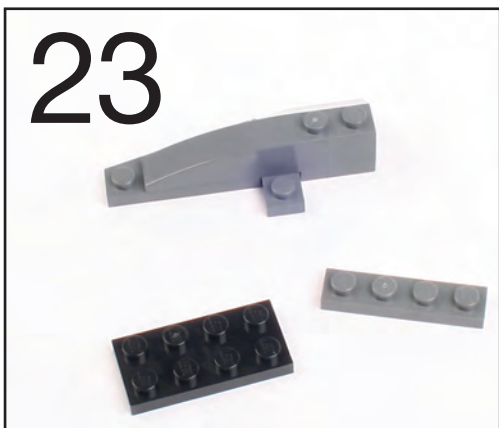
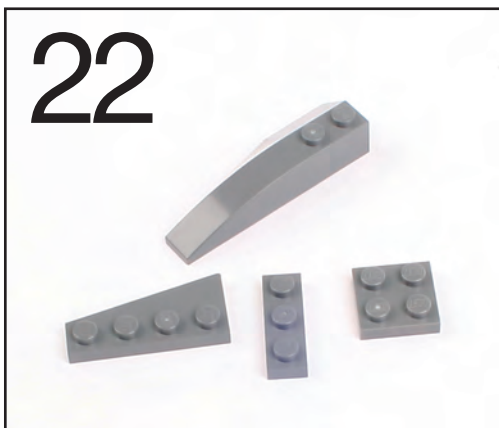
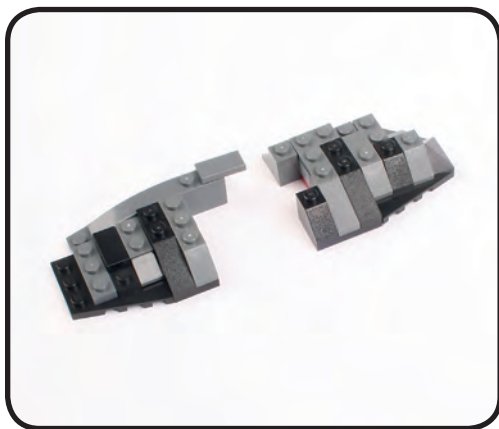
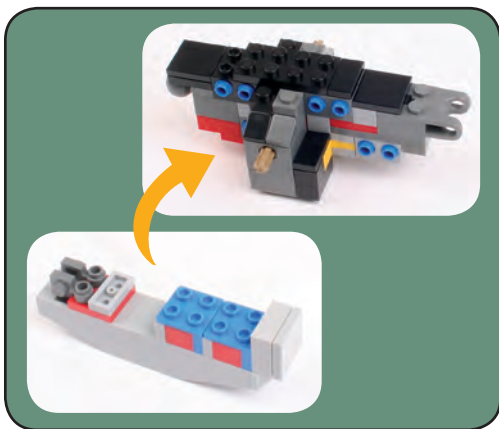
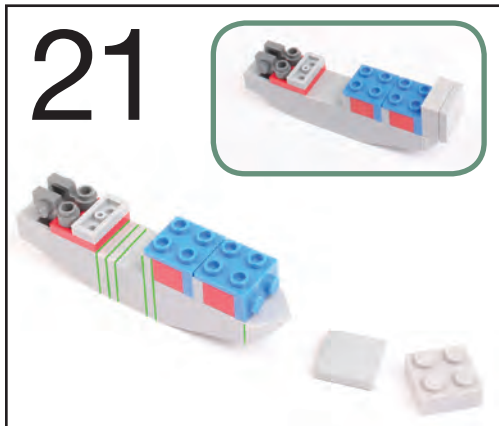
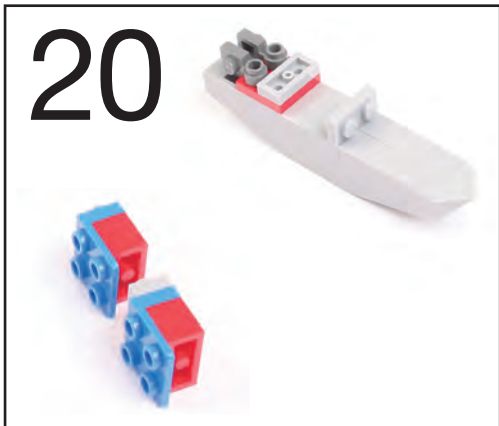
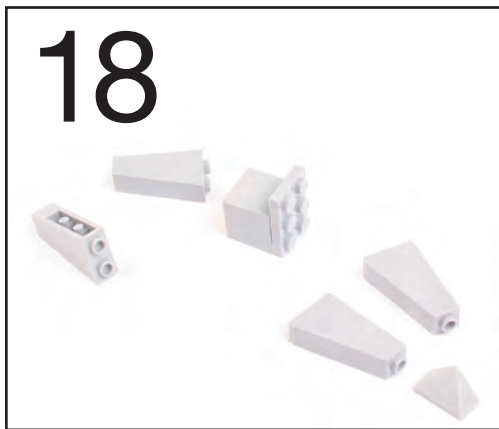
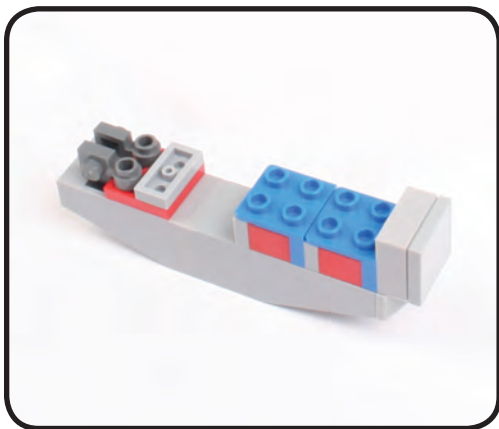
T. Rex



AWESOME STEGO. ANY CHANCE YOU CAN SHOW ME HOW TO BUILD THAT T. REX?

FOR AN EXPERIENCED BUILDER LIKE YOU, MEGS, OF COURSE. THIS IS A CHALLENGING BUILD!





25



26



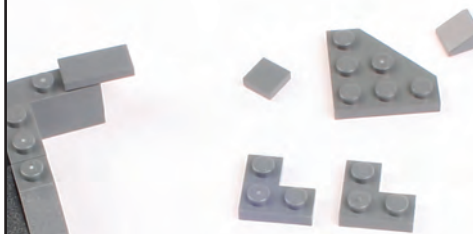
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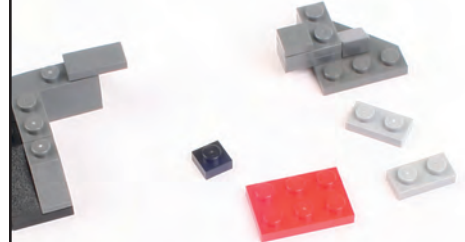
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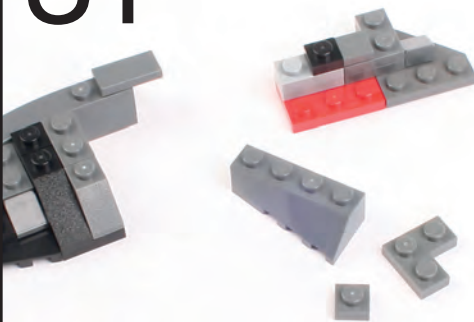
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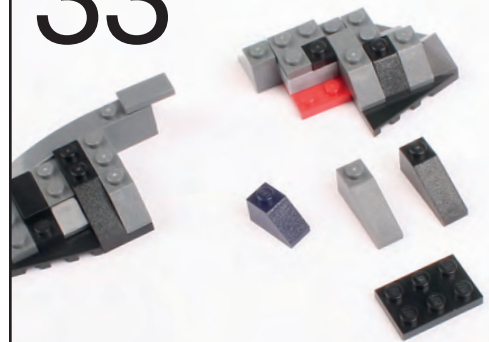
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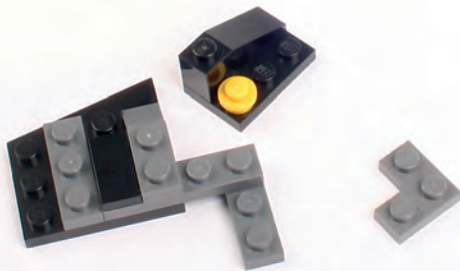
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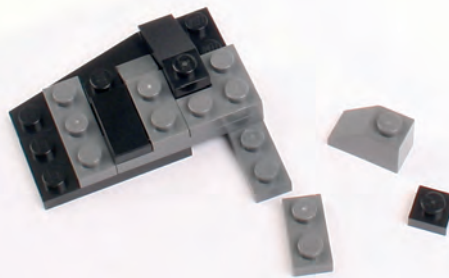
37



38



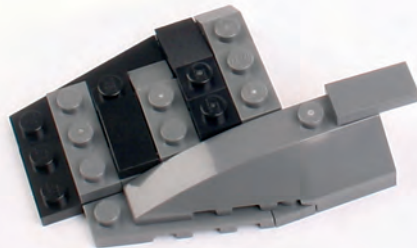
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40



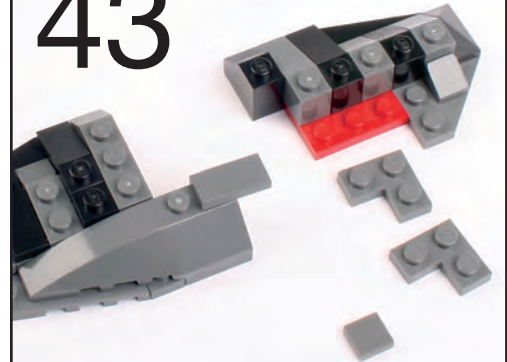
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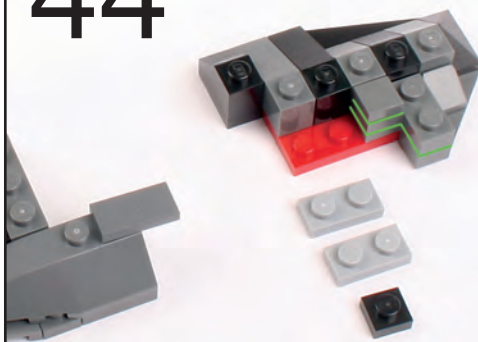
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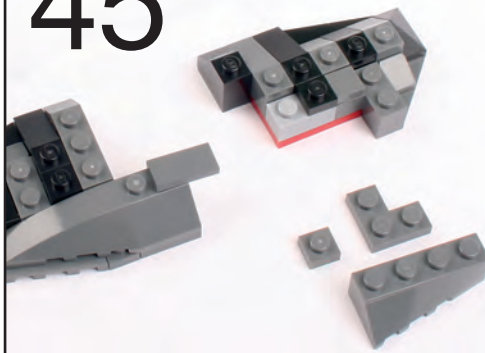
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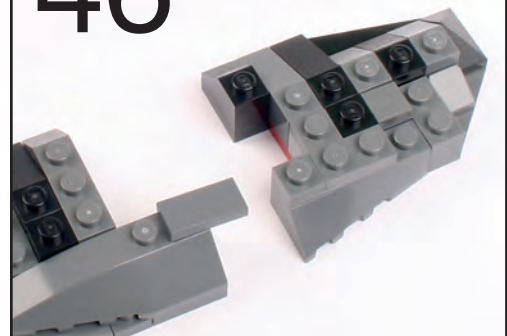
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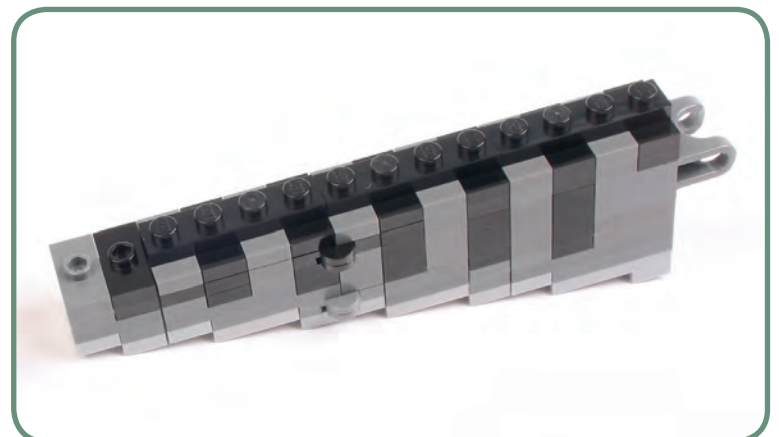
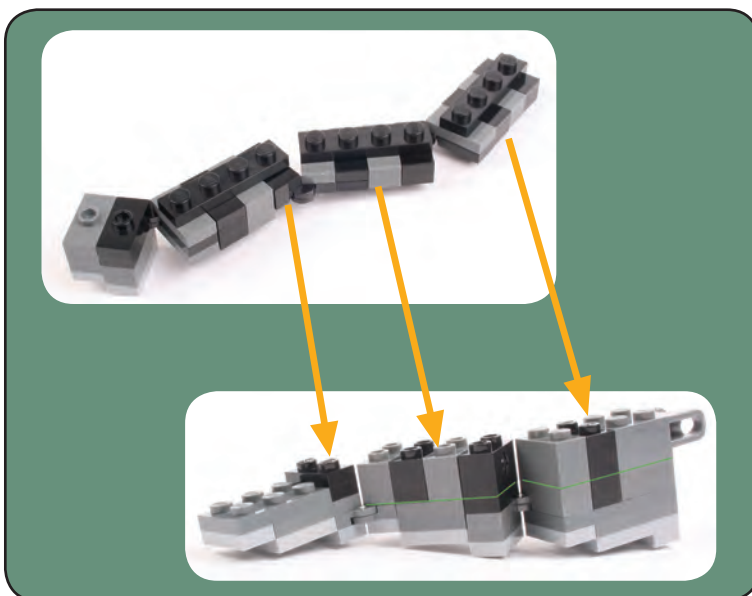
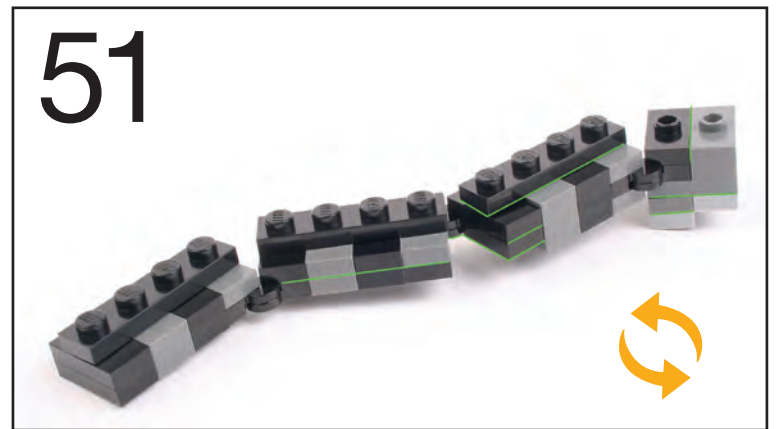
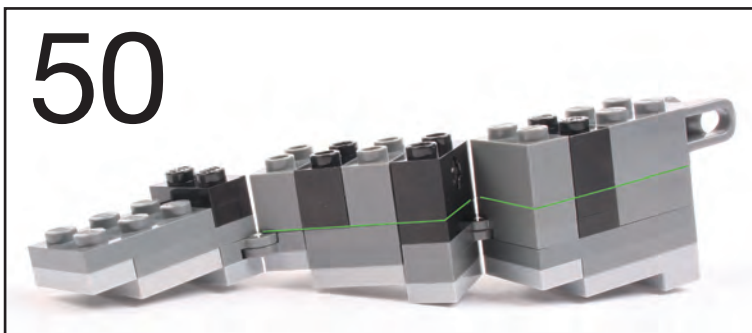
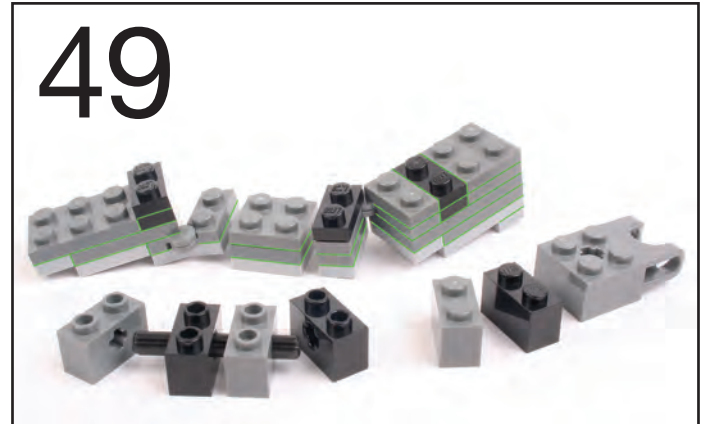
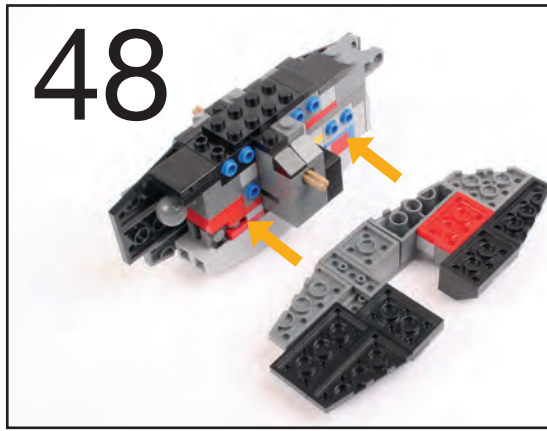
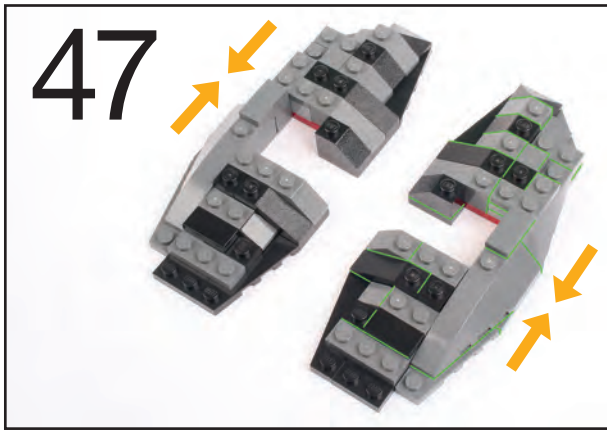


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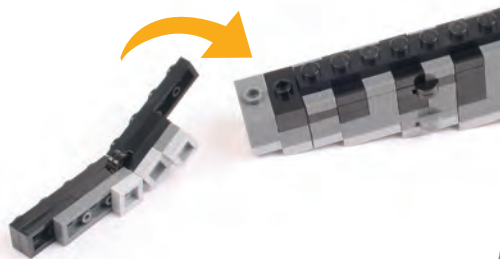


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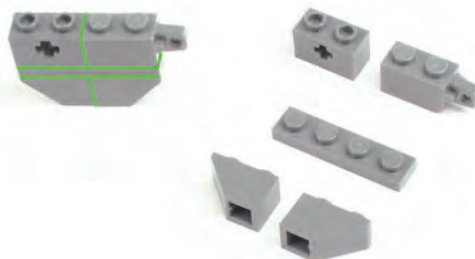


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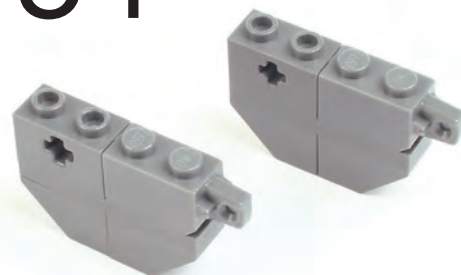


x2

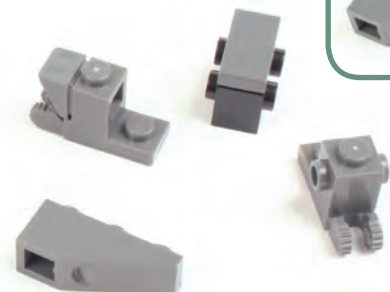
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54

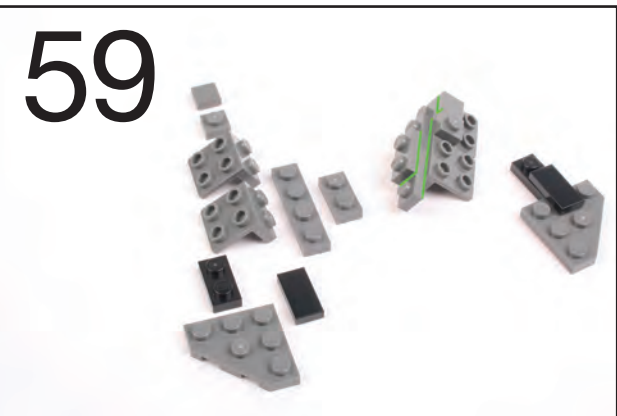
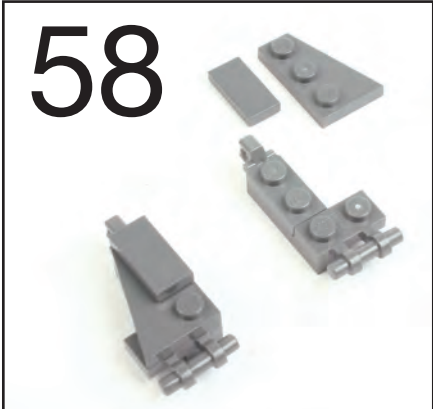
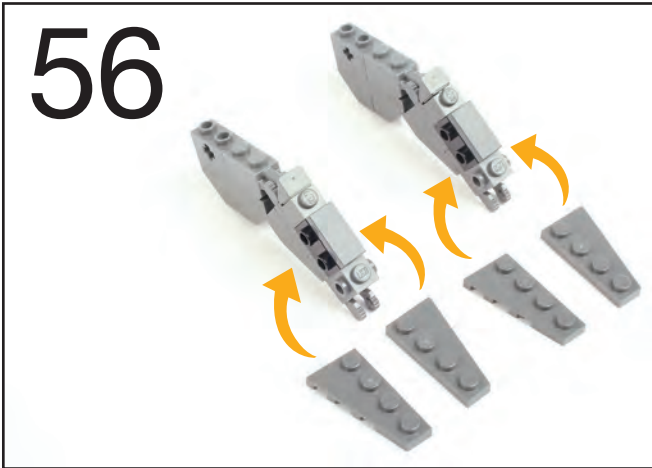


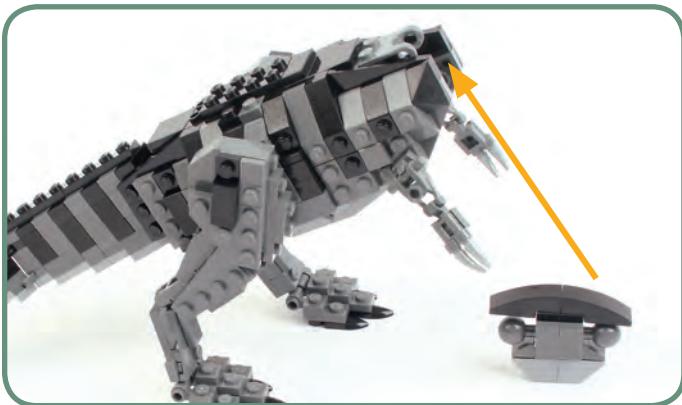
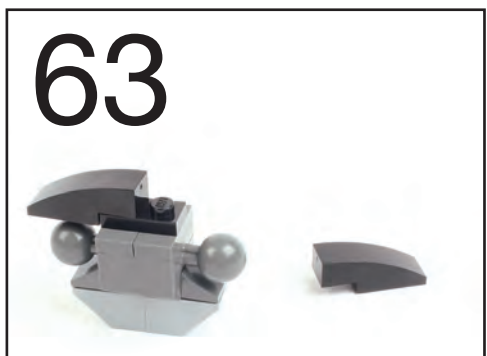
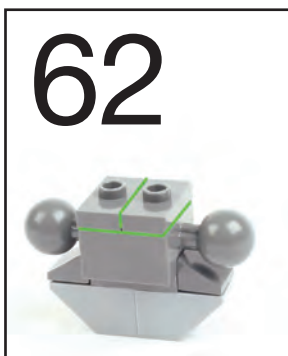
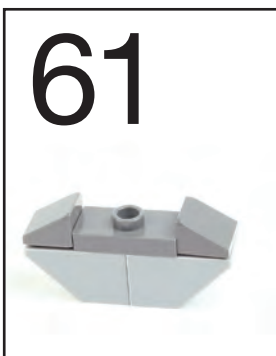
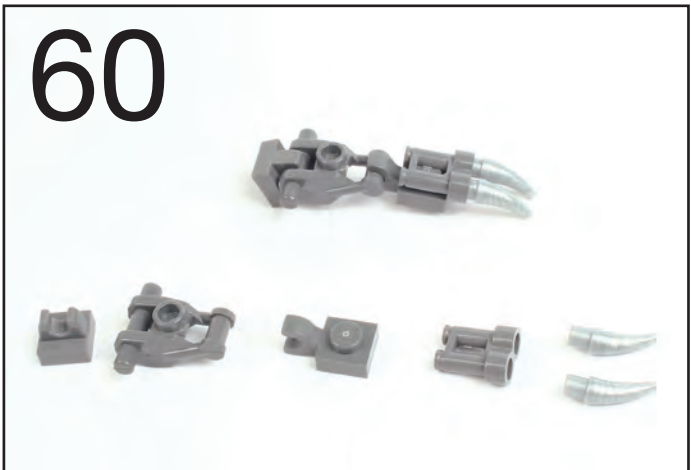
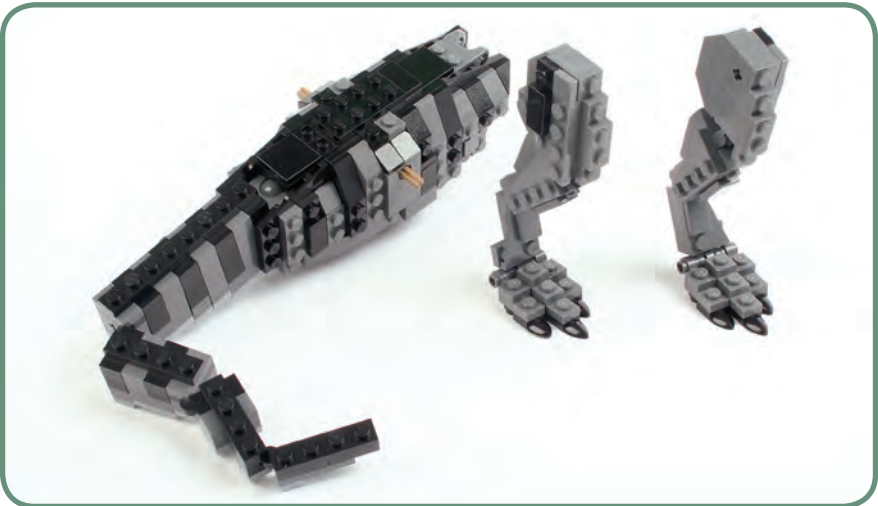
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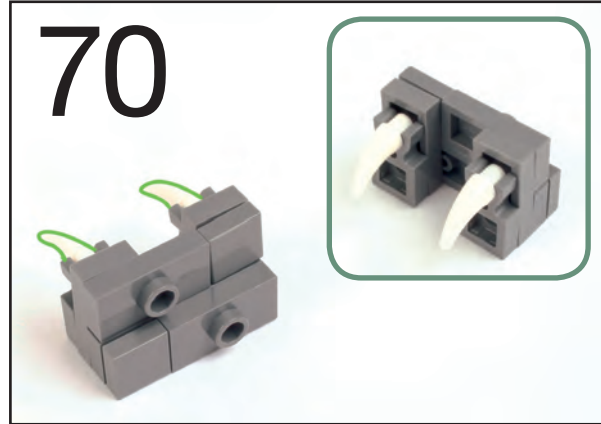
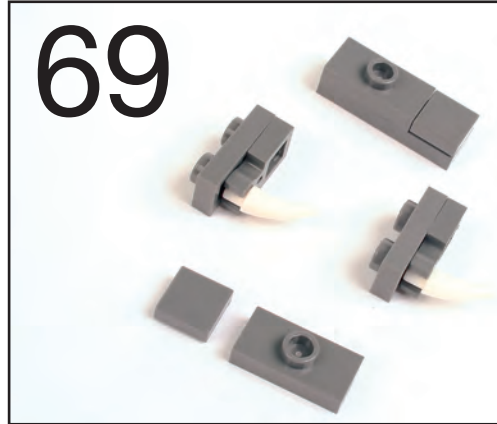
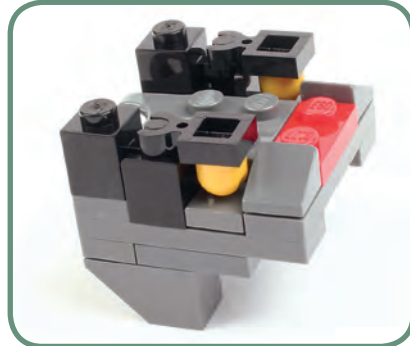
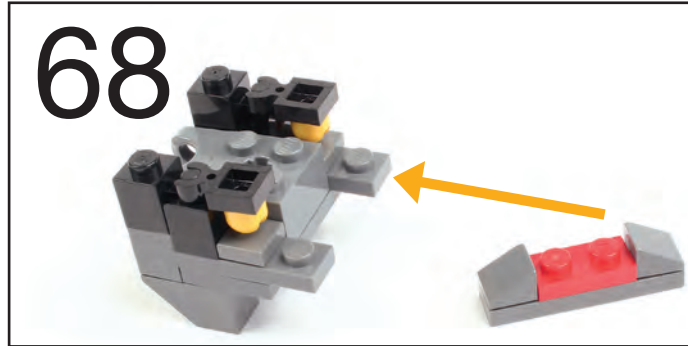
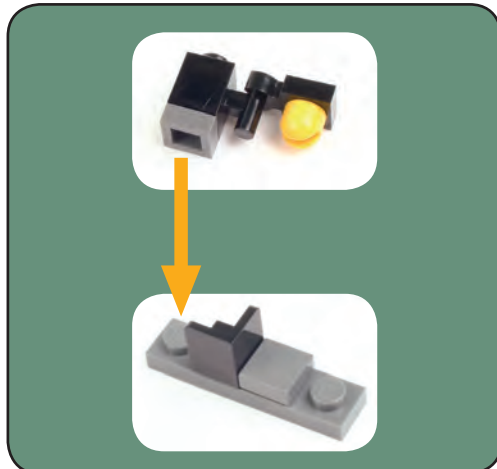
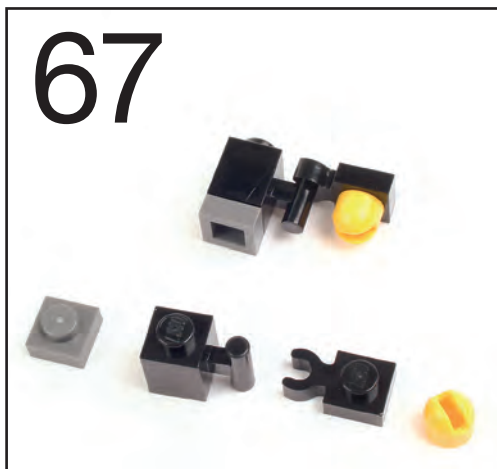
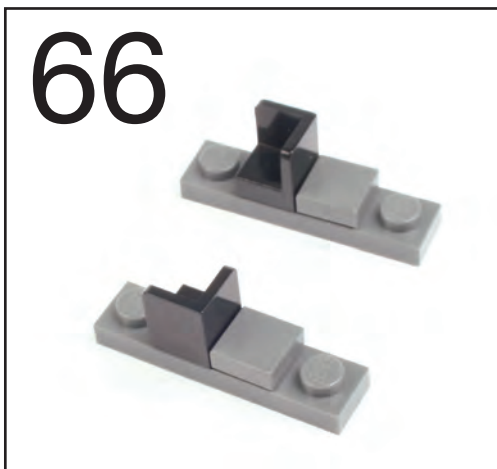


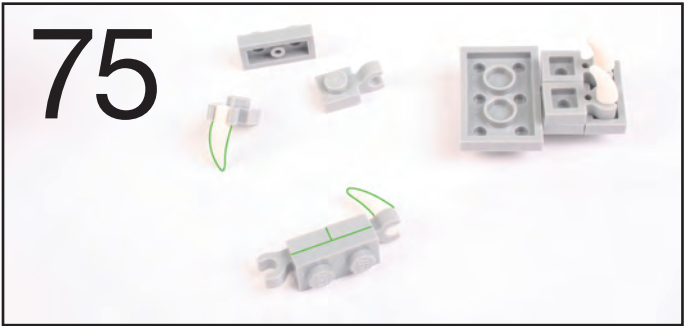
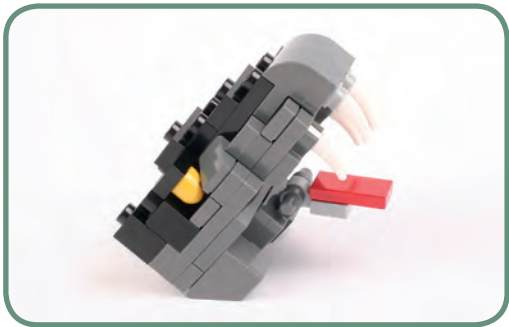
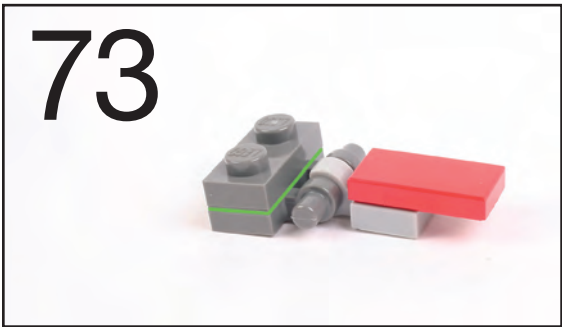
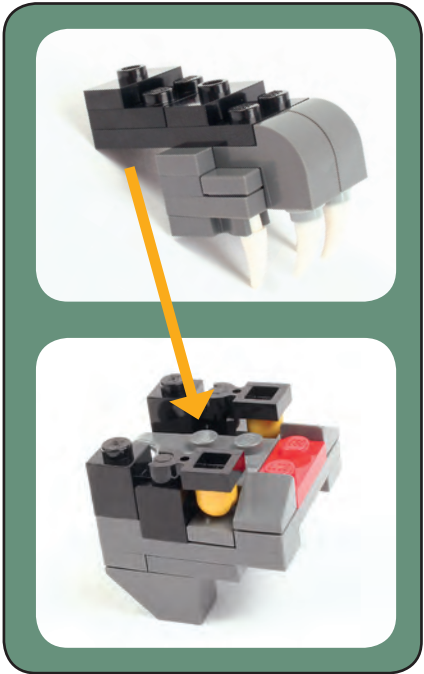
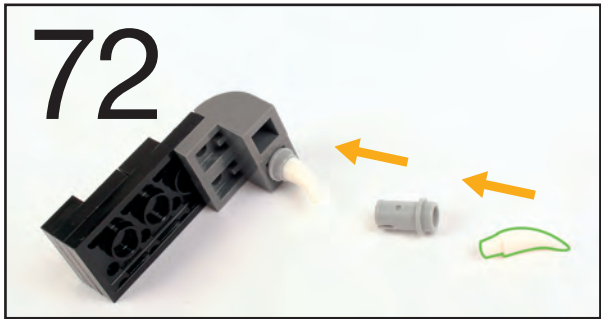
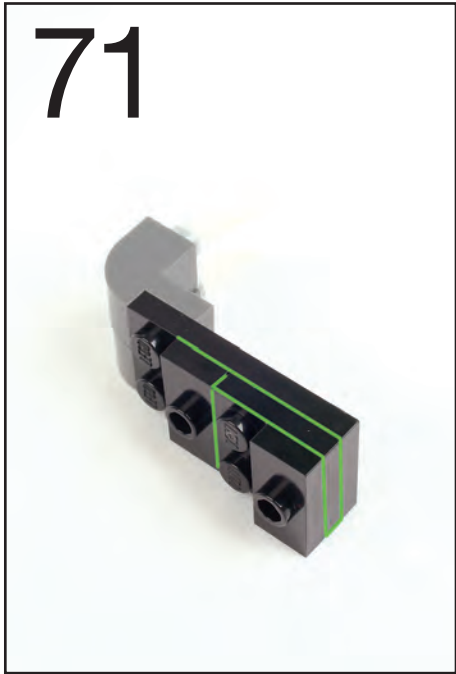
x2

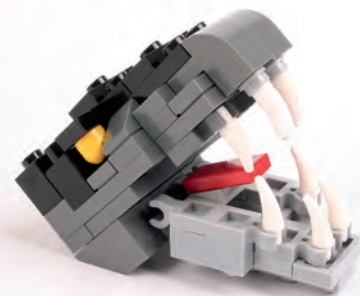














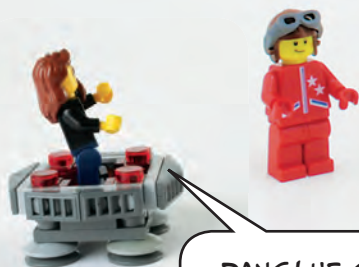
THAT WAS A LONG BUILD BUT TOTALLY WORTH IT!



THANKS! I HAVE ONE IN BROWN, TOO. SOMETIMES IT'S FUN TO BUILD A COPY OF A LEGO MODEL WITH A DIFFERENT COLOR SCHEME.



IF YOU WOULD LIKE A BIG CHALLENGE, YOU CAN ALWAYS TRY TO BUILD MY BRACHIOSAURUS.



DANG! HE SURE IS TALL! I'M NOT SURE I HAVE ENOUGH GREY LEGO BRICKS TO BUILD HIM, BUT I COULD TRY A BLUE ONE! HEEHEE.



THANK YOU, MIKE.
I'M GOING TO CONTINUE
MY EXPLORATION NOW,
SO I'LL SAY GOOD-BYE.



BYE, MEGS.
GOOD LUCK
OUT THERE!

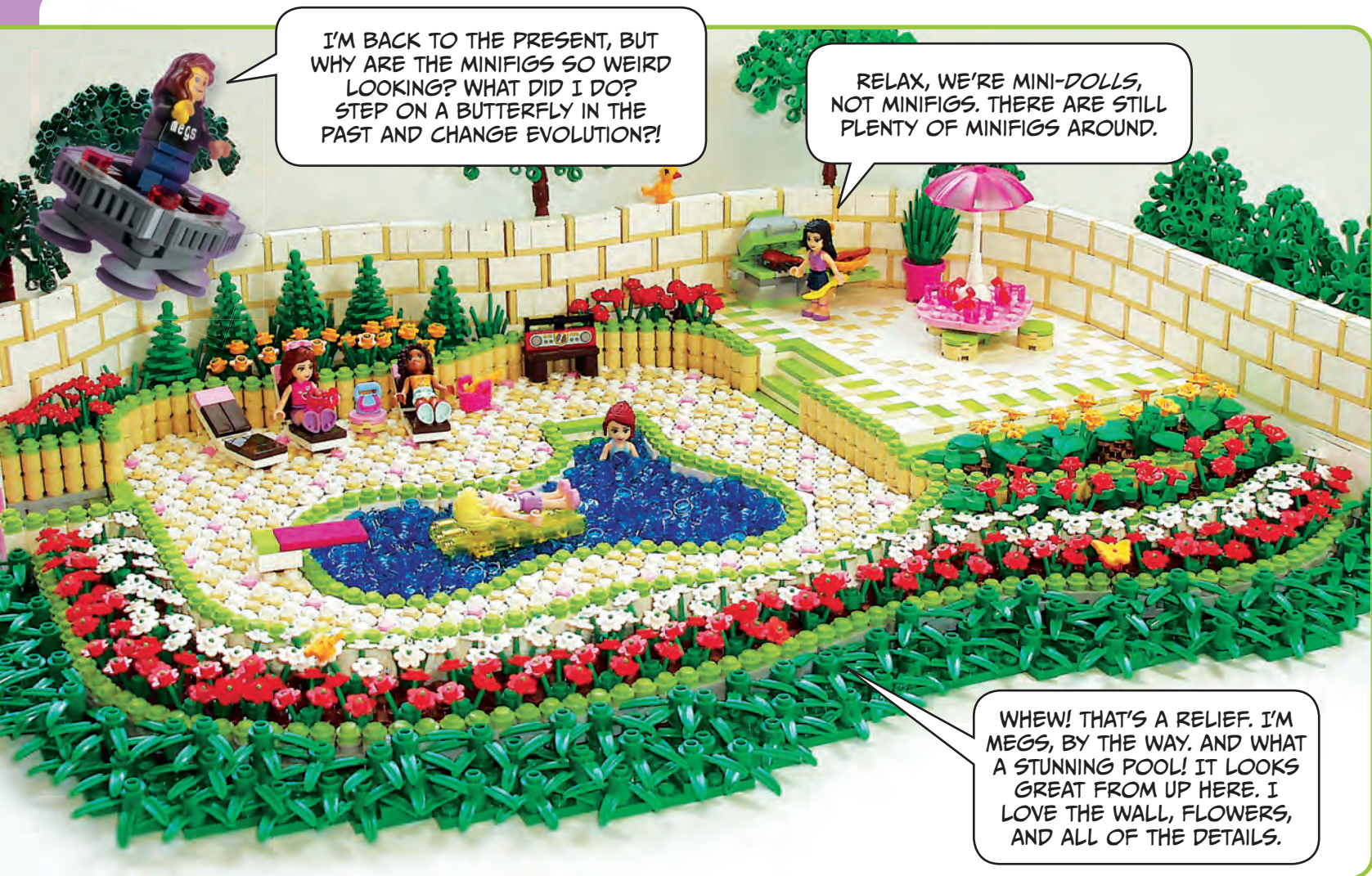
RUH-ROOH?



ROOOAAARRRR!

OH NO, NOW THERE ARE
TWO OF THEM! WHERE
DID I PARK THAT TRUCK?
AAAAH!!





Making New Friends



Katie Walker

Nickname: Eilonwy77

Profession: Elementary School Teacher

Nationality: American

Website: www.flickr.com/eilonwy77



THANKS! IT WAS ALL
BUILT BY KATIE, OUR
MINIFIGURE FAIRY.

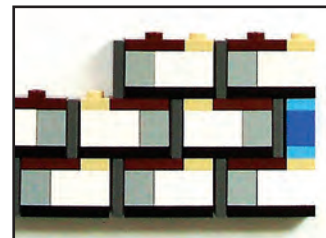


KATIE, CAN YOU SHOW
OUR NEW FRIEND
MEGS HOW YOU BUILT
SOME OF OUR STUFF?

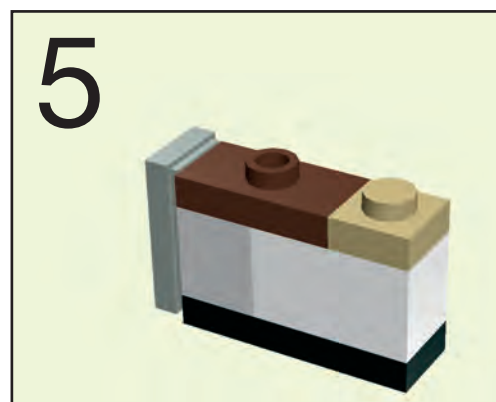
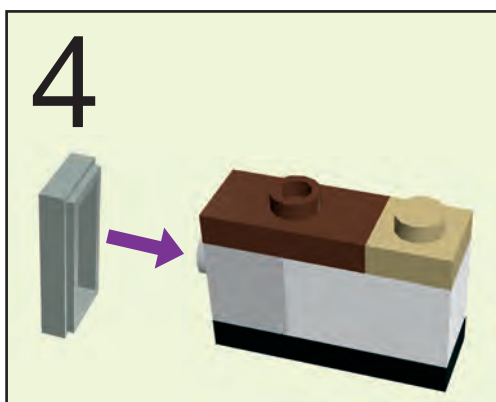
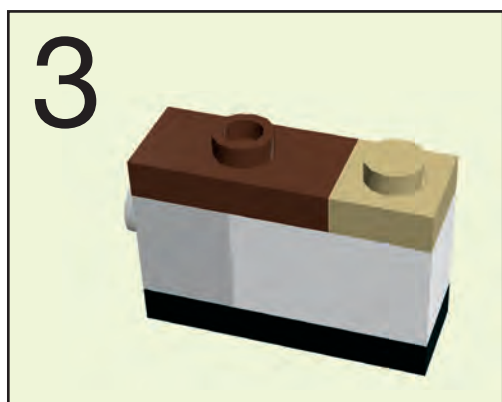
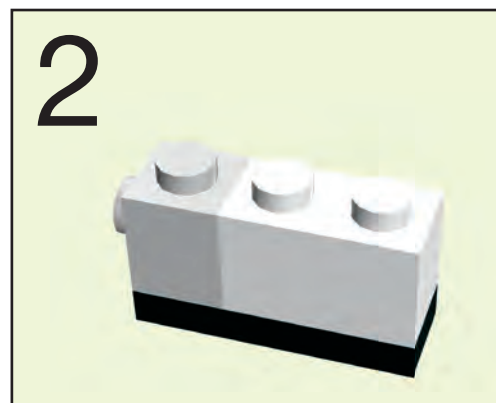
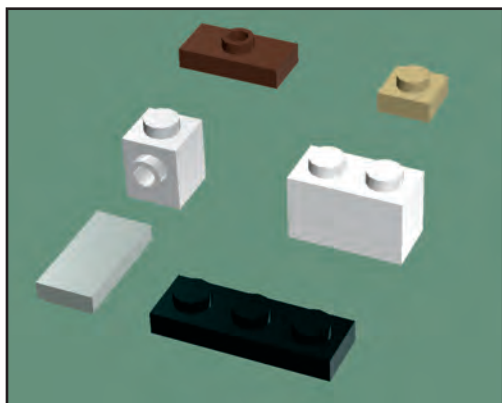




I'D LOVE TO SHARE MY TECHNIQUES! BUILDING A CURVED WALL STARTS WITH A SIMPLE BRICK SUBASSEMBLY.

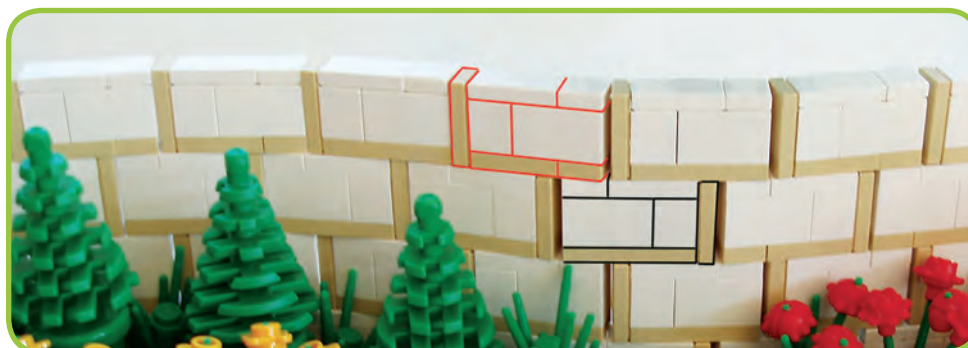
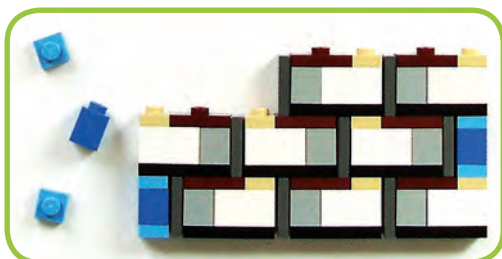


Curved Wall



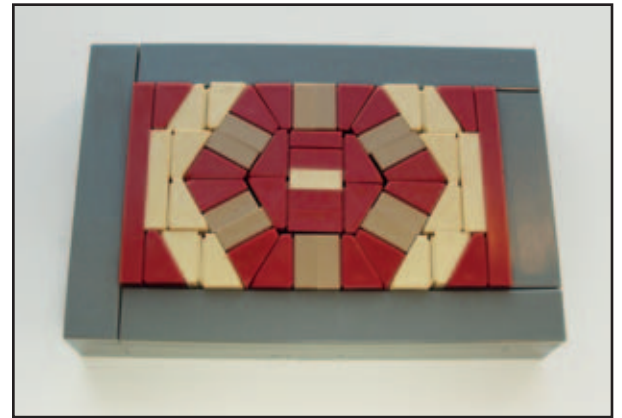
Building Tip

Switch directions with each layer to make your wall more stable.

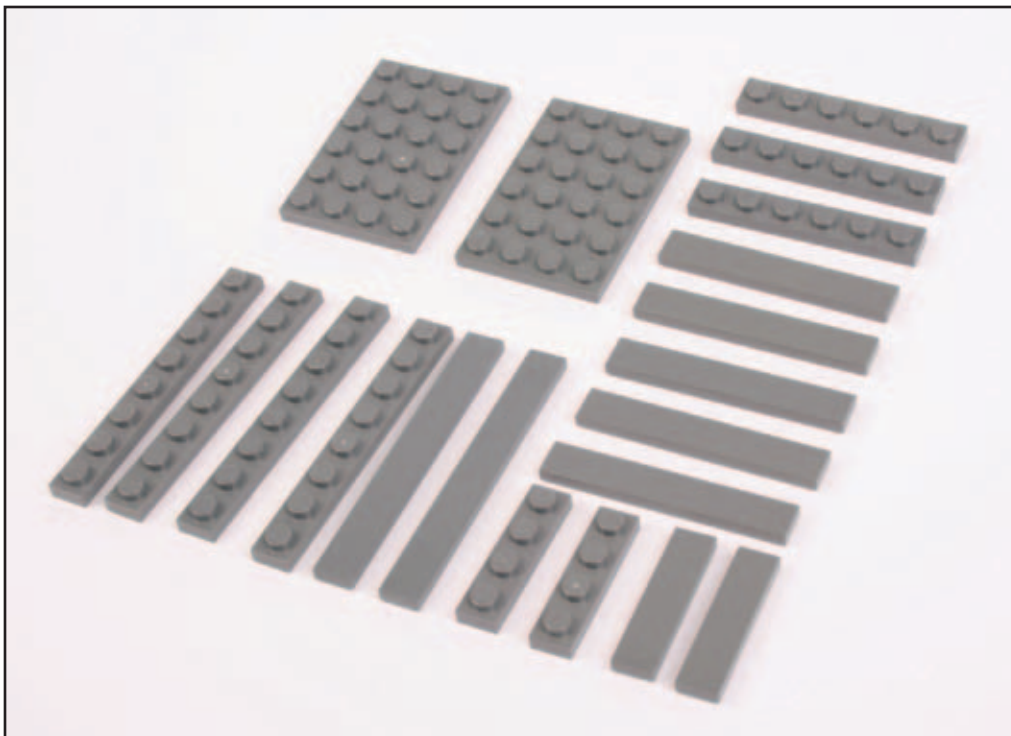




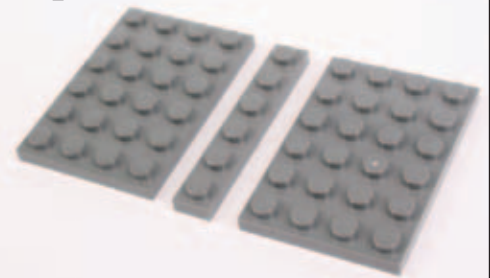
NOW I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO BUILD A MOSAIC THAT'S SIX STUDS WIDE AND NINE STUDS LONG. MOSAIC BUILDING IS A LITTLE UNUSUAL. WE'LL START BY BUILDING A FRAME TO HOLD THE PIECES. AFTER THAT, WE JUST SLOT IN SLOPE AND TILE PIECES SIDEWAYS. THE PATTERN WILL NEED TO FIT THE FRAME EXACTLY.



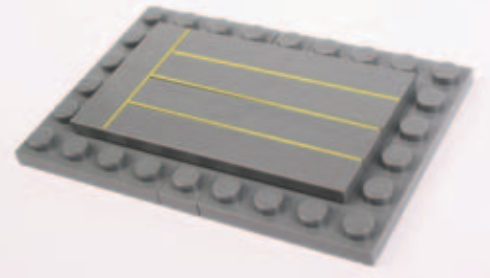
Mosaic



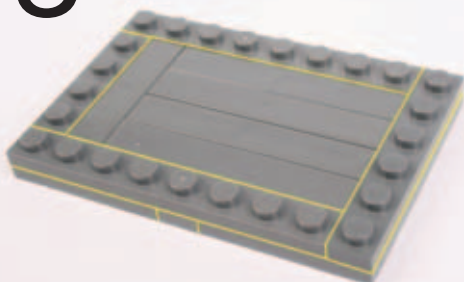
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2



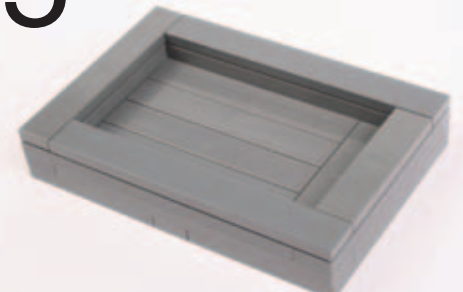
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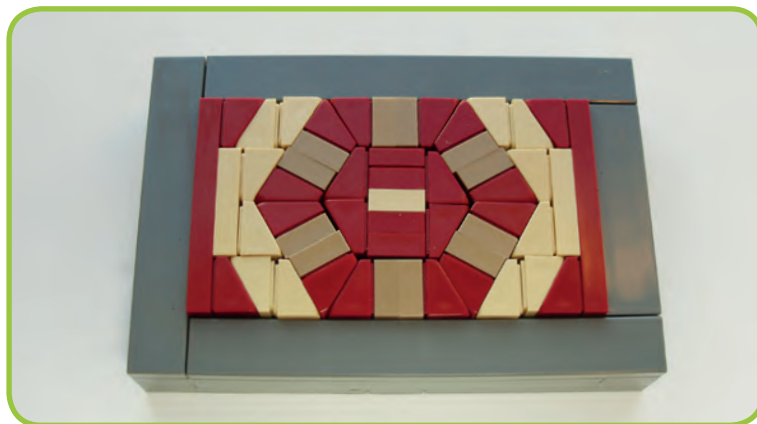
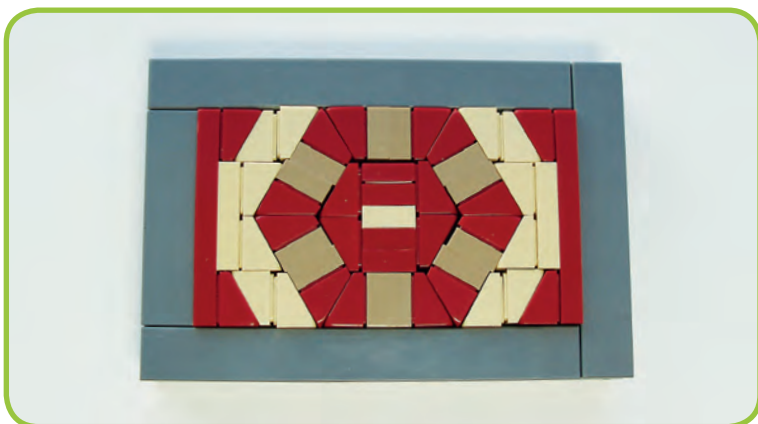
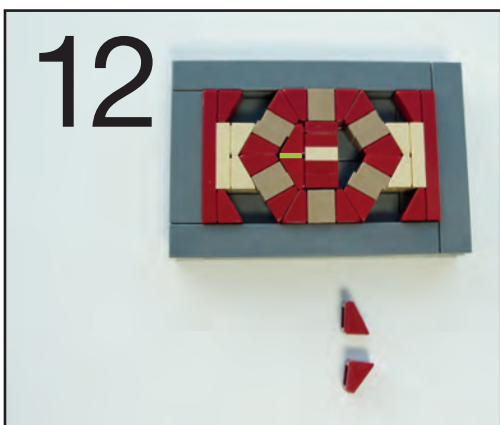
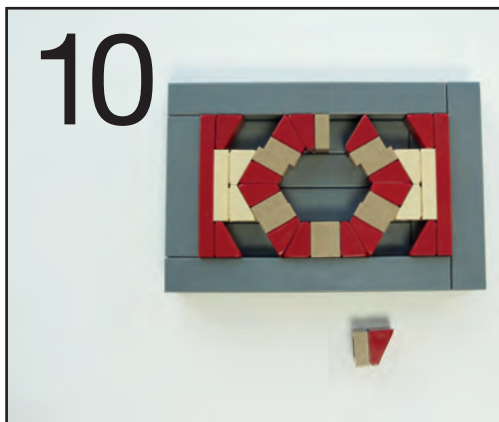
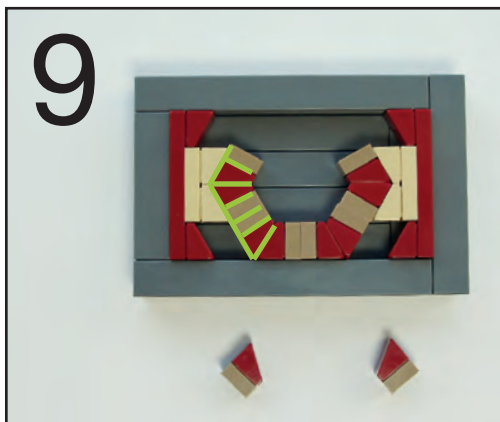
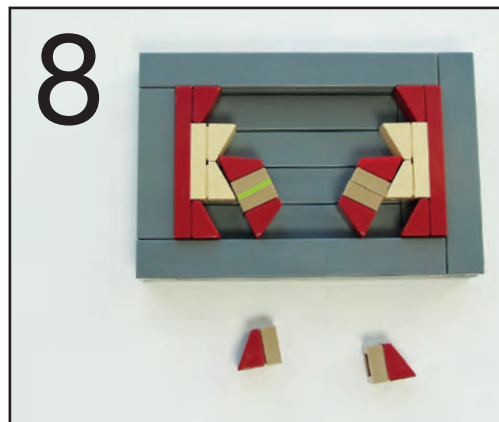
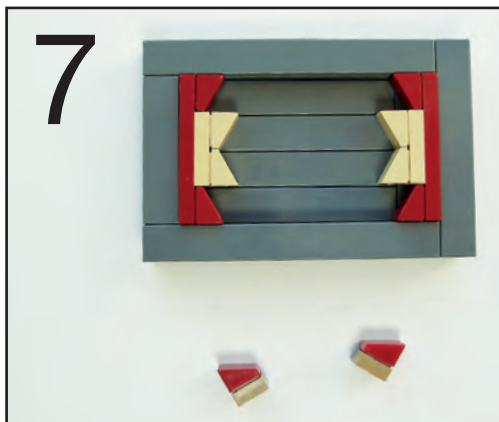
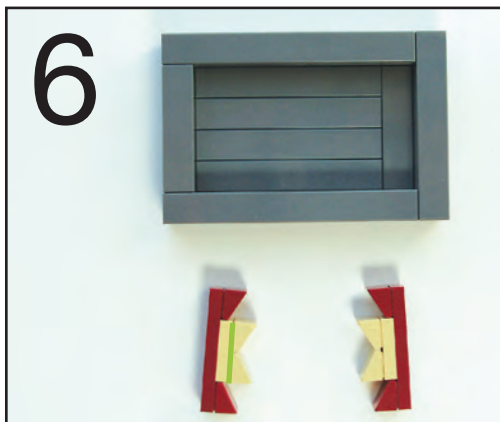


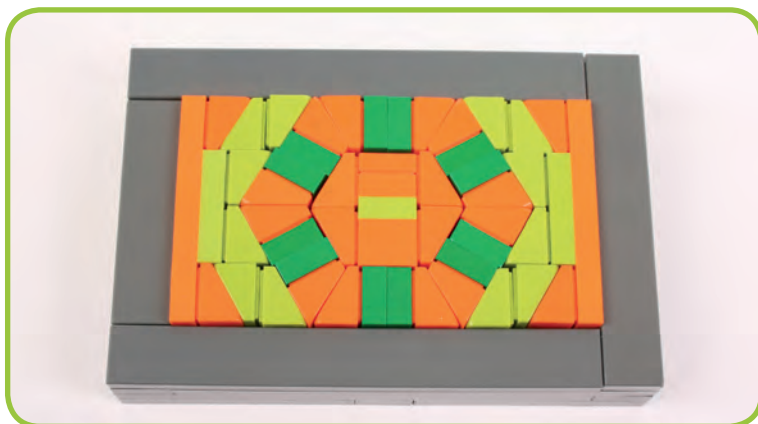
4



5







The same mosaic pattern built with different colors

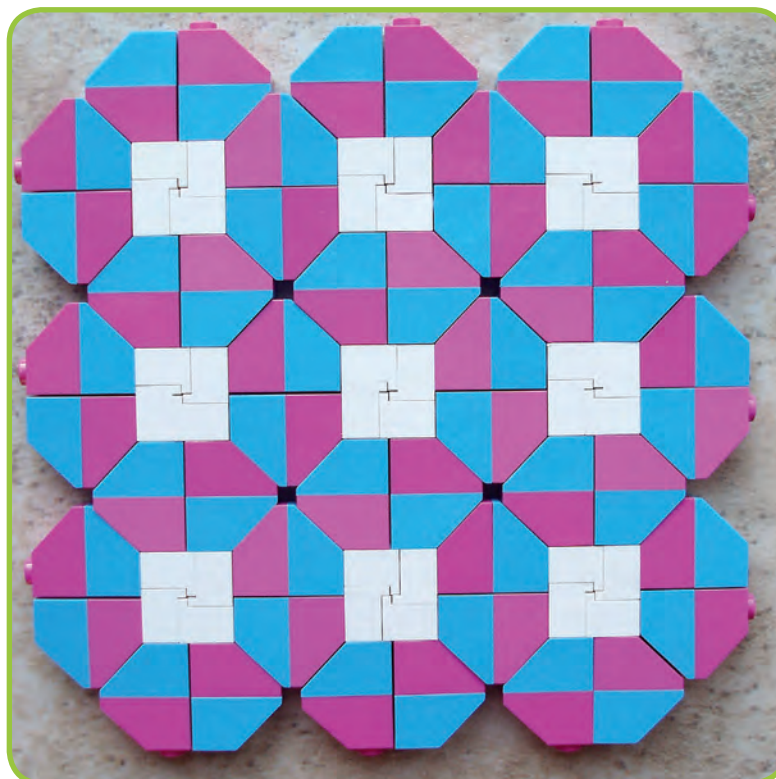
Building Tip

This design is really tight, and you might think several pieces won't fit. The last piece of the hexagon is especially difficult to squeeze in. Try squeezing the smallest part of the piece into the gap first and then push hard. When you're finished, you might be able to hold the mosaic upside down without any of the pieces falling out.

This mosaic is designed with several pieces attached to each other, which makes them easier to place. Having fewer loose pieces also increases the tension that holds the mosaic in place and makes it less likely to fall apart.



YOU CAN ALSO BUILD A MOSAIC USING OTHER LEGO BRICKS, LIKE THIS PINK AND BLUE ONE.



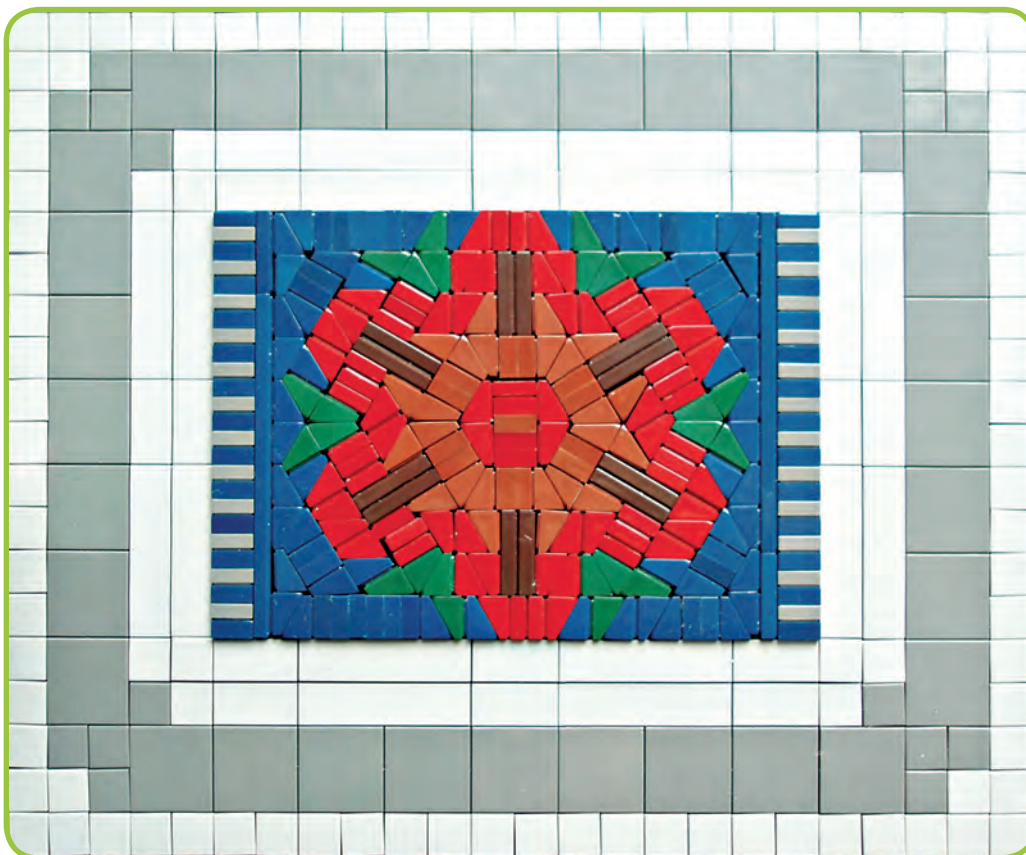


BUILDING JOURNAL

Katie told me mosaics are really finicky. Sometimes just modifying the frame slightly will completely change how a mosaic fits into place. She recommends trying different ideas, no matter how crazy they seem. Even if the original idea doesn't work, it might lead to another one that does. I think that's true for any design project!

HERE IN THE BLUE ROOM I HAVE USED MY MOSAIC TECHNIQUES IN MANY PLACES.





Building Tip

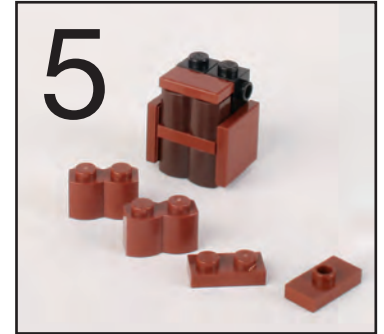
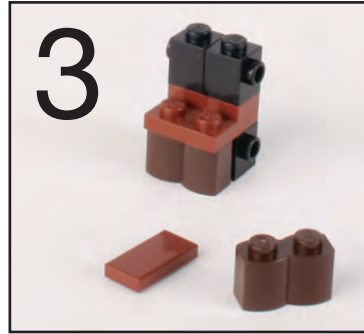
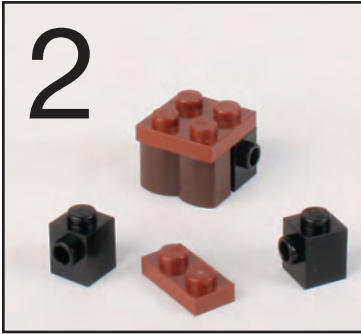
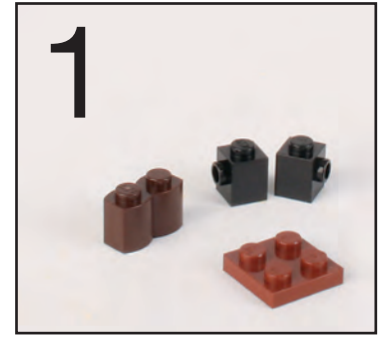
I sometimes use toothpicks or tweezers to push pieces into place. They're more precise than your fingers, and if a piece tips over it's much easier to pull it out.





Grandfather Clock

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN BUILD A GRANDFATHER CLOCK FOR YOUR STUDY.





HERE ARE SOME
COURTYARDS AND
INTERIORS THAT USE MY
MOSAIC TECHNIQUES.



WOW, YOUR COURTYARDS
AND INTERIOR SPACES
COMPLEMENT EACH OTHER
BEAUTIFULLY. I WISH
I COULD SEE MORE
AMAZING ENVIRONMENTS
LIKE THESE.



WELL, I AM A FAIRY,
AND WISHES ARE MY
SPECIALTY. GOOD LUCK
WITH YOUR TRAVELS,
MEGS. FAREWELL!

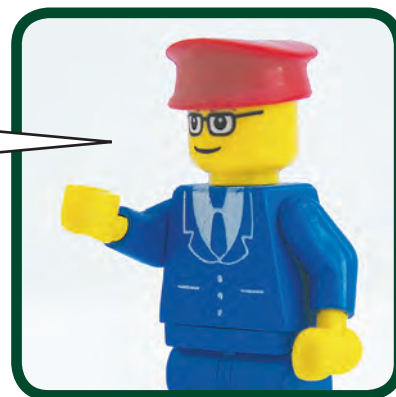




WOW! LOOK
AT ALL THOSE
STEAM ENGINES!

THANK YOU, SIR.
WHERE AM I? AND
WHO ARE YOU?

HEY! YOU THERE!
GET OUT OF THERE,
OR YOU'LL END UP
COVERED IN SOOT!



Full Steam Ahead



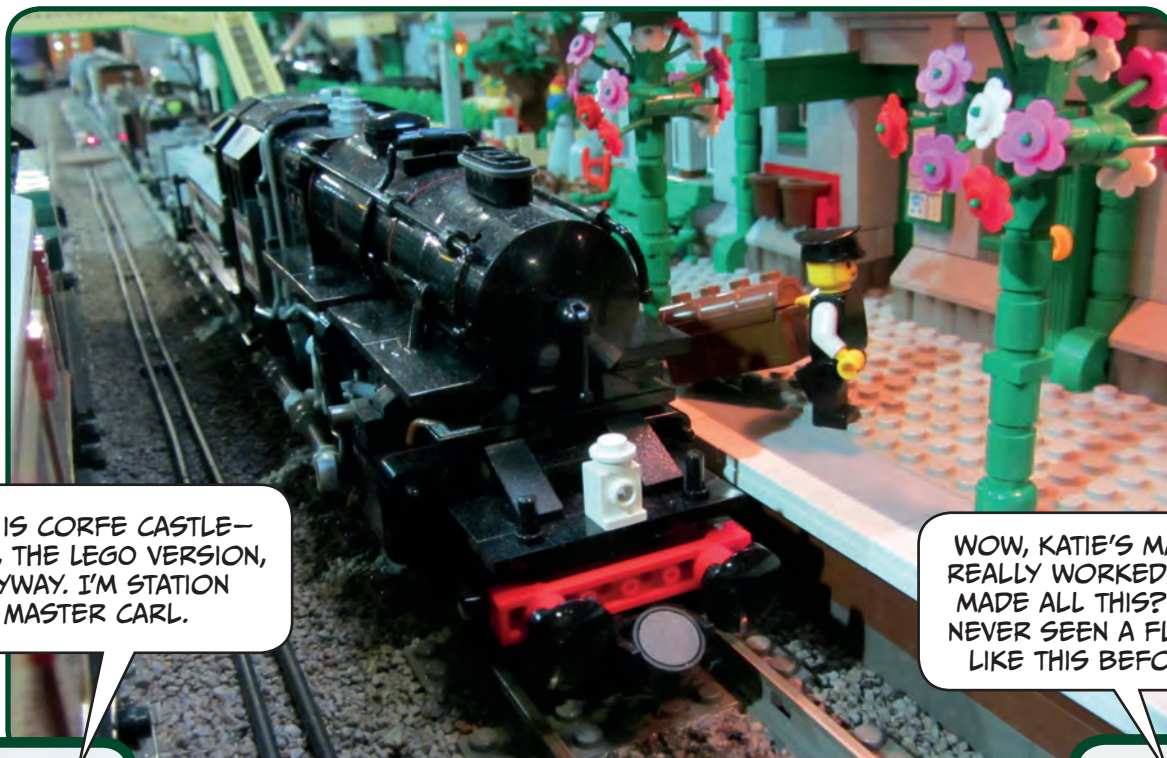
Carl Greatrix

Nickname: Bricktrix

Profession: LEGO Model Designer at TT Games

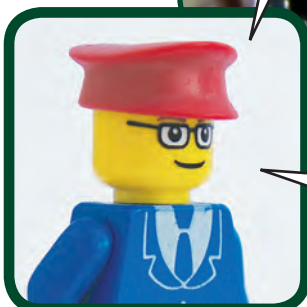
Nationality: British

Websites: www.flickr.com/photos/bricktrix/
www.brickshelf.com/cgi-bin/gallery.cgi?f=309654



THIS IS CORFE CASTLE—
WELL, THE LEGO VERSION,
ANYWAY. I'M STATION
MASTER CARL.

WOW, KATIE'S MAGIC
REALLY WORKED! YOU
MADE ALL THIS? I'VE
NEVER SEEN A FLOOR
LIKE THIS BEFORE.



SOME AREAS OF CORFE CASTLE
USE MODEL RAILWAY PARTS (LIKE
THE GRASS AND THE GRAVEL), BUT
ALL OF THE VEHICLES, BUILDINGS,
AND PLANTS ARE MADE FROM LEGO
PIECES. WOULD LIKE TO SEE SOME
MORE OF MY TRAINS?

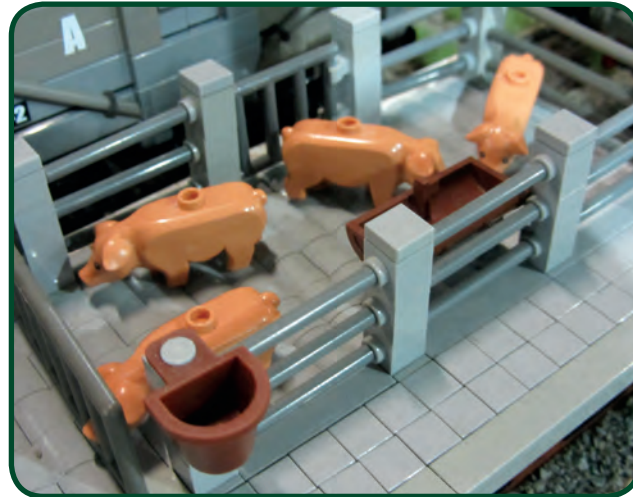
THAT WOULD BE
LOVELY!





Building Tip

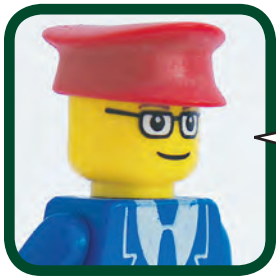
When you're building a train, think about what cargo it might be hauling.



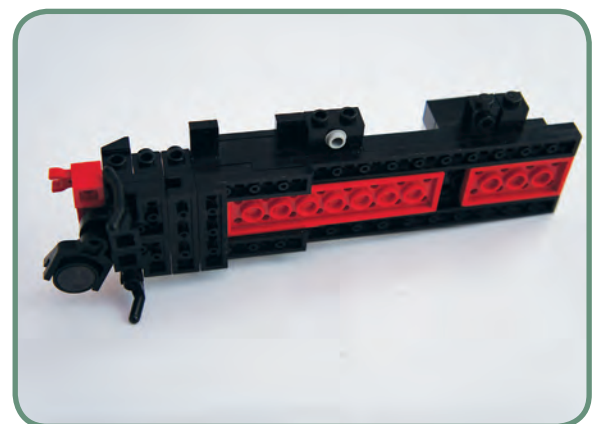
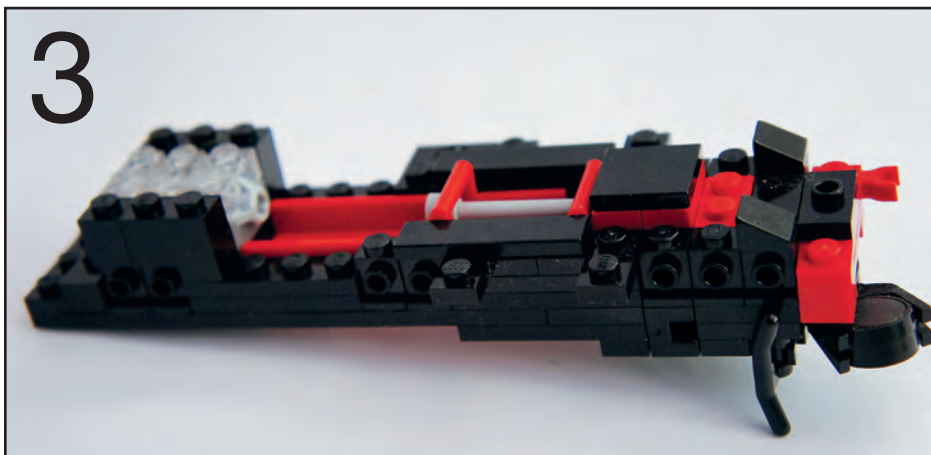
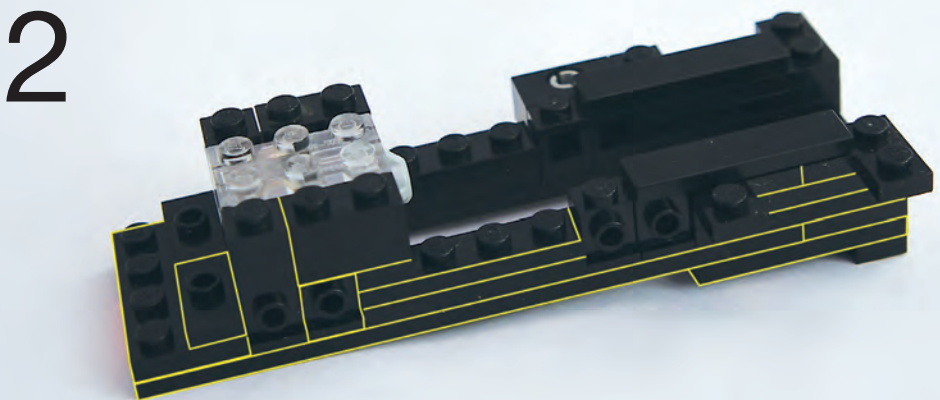
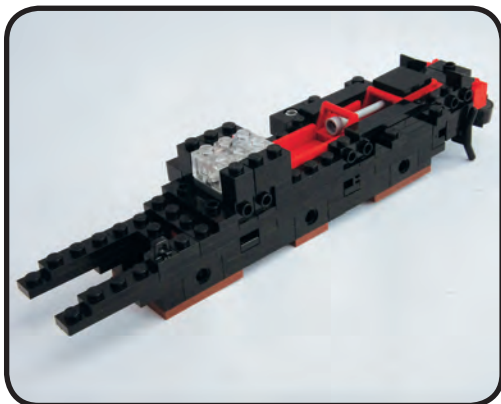
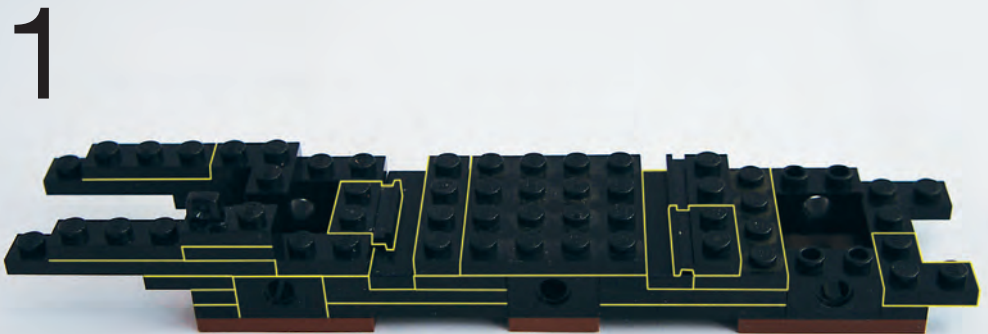
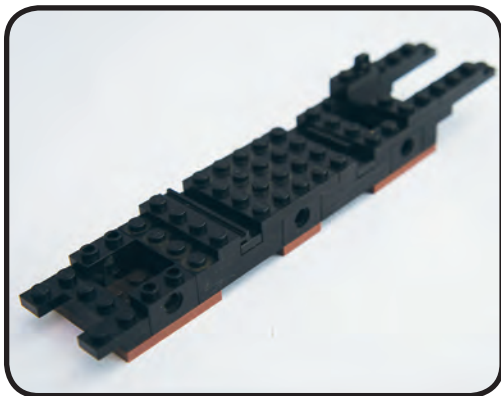
BRICKTRIX IS ONE OF MY FAVORITES, WHICH IS WHY I NAMED IT AFTER MYSELF.

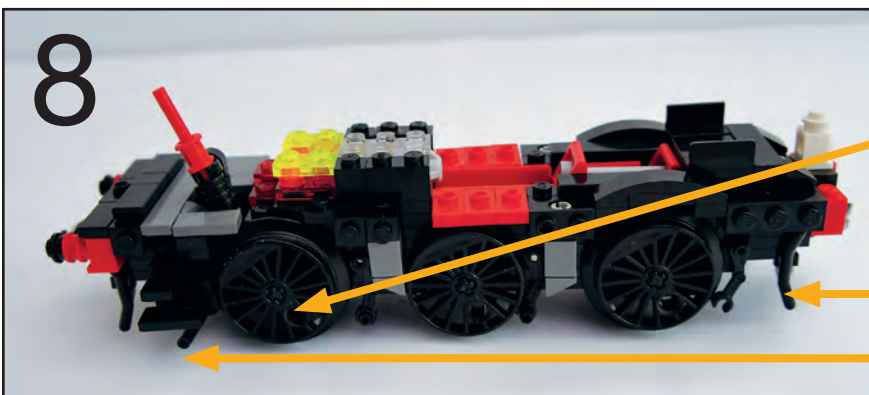
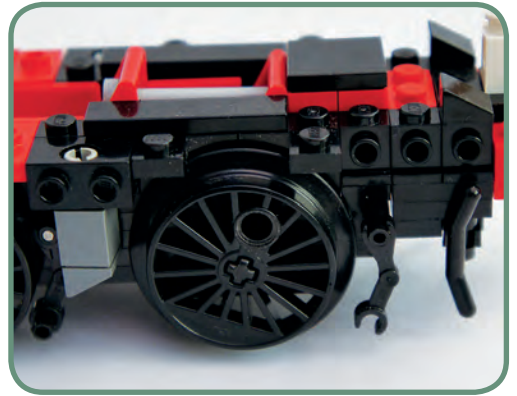
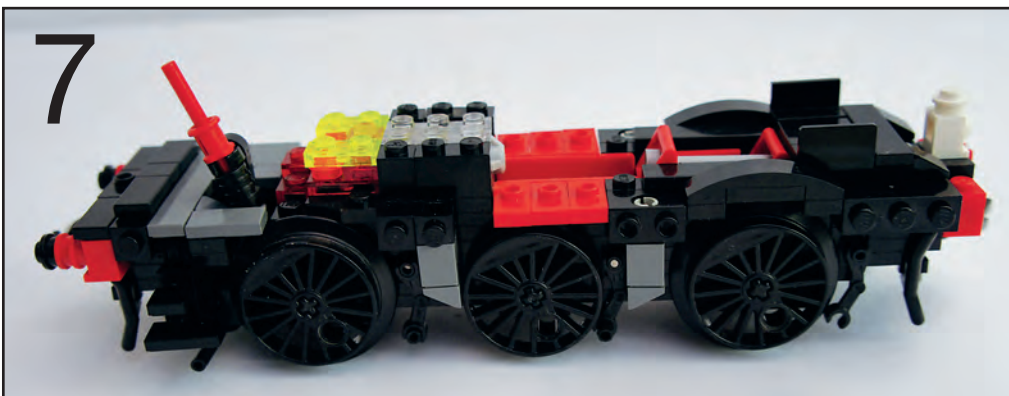
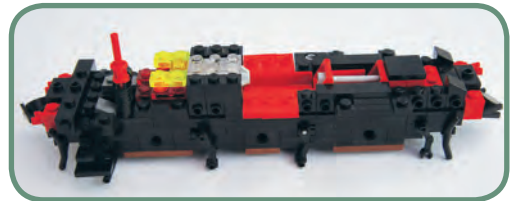
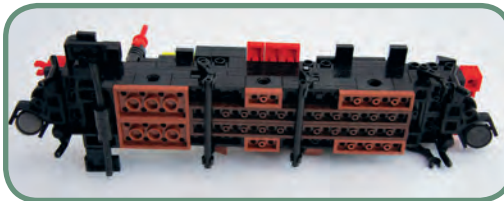
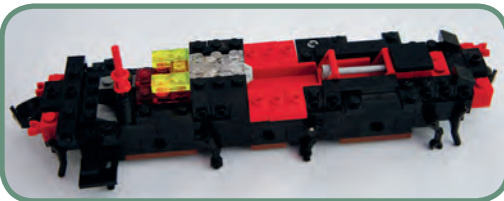
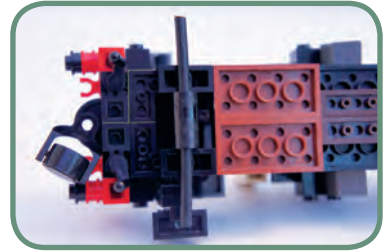
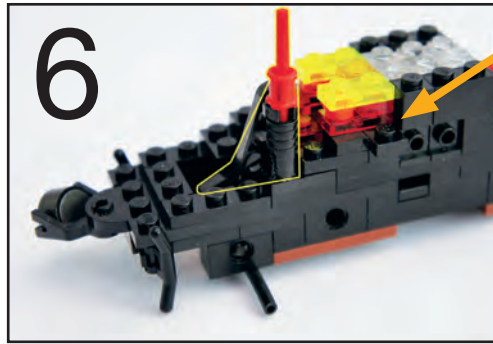
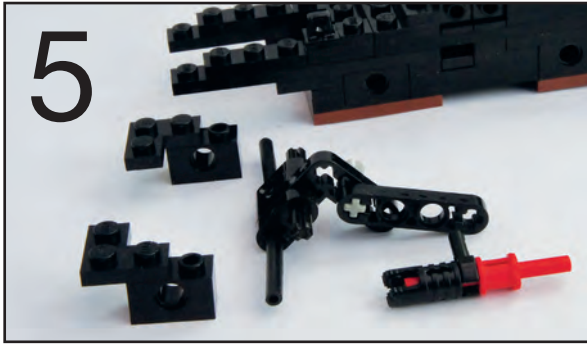
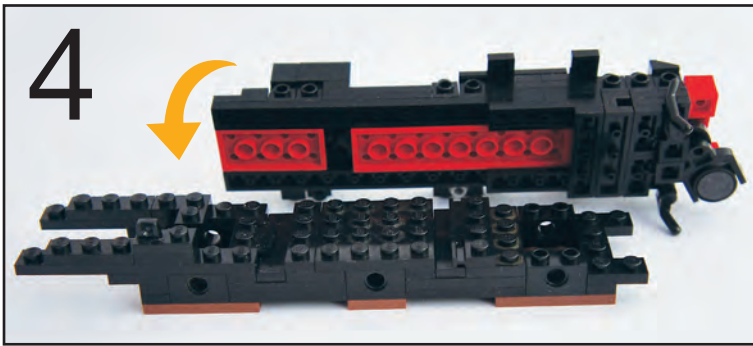


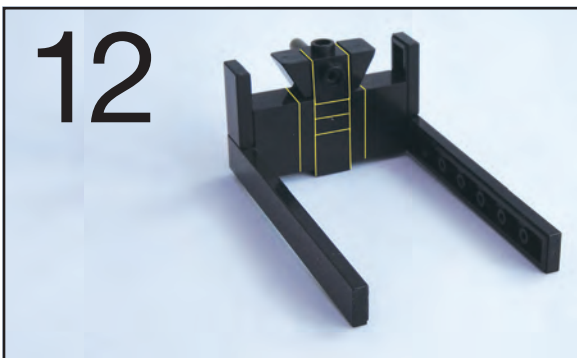
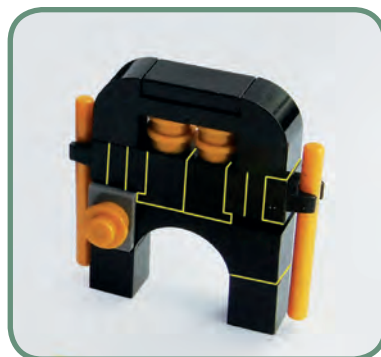
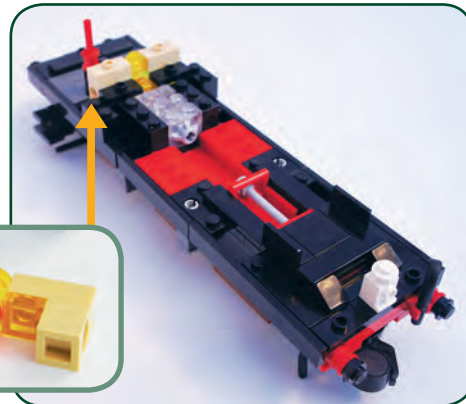
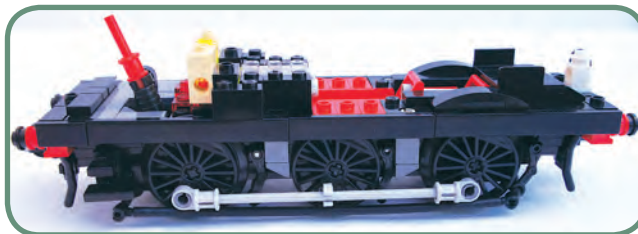
Jinty Tank Engine



YOU WILL NEED TO PUT YOUR ENGINEER'S THINKING CAP ON FOR THIS BUILD—IT HAS A LOT OF WORKING PARTS. TAKE YOUR TIME AND STUDY THE INSTRUCTIONS CLOSELY. I RECOMMEND THAT ONLY THE MOST EXPERIENCED LEGO BUILDERS TRY TO TACKLE THIS MODEL.

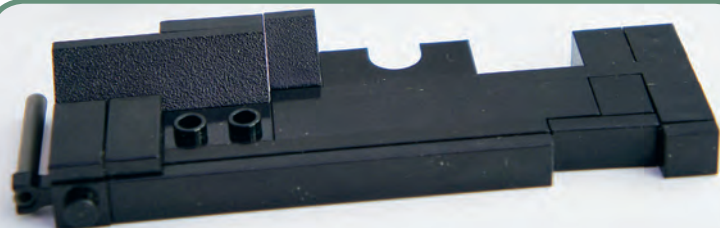
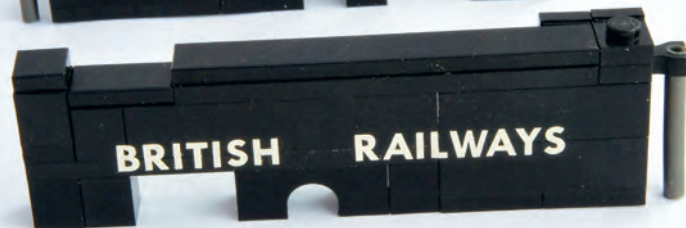
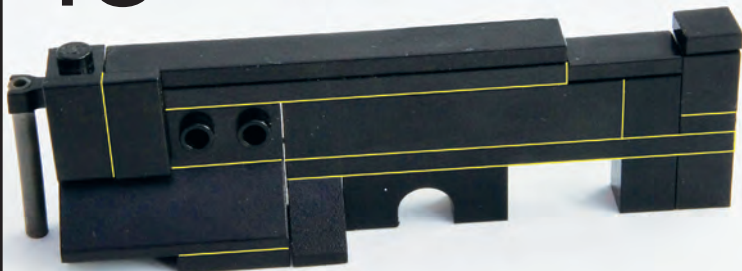




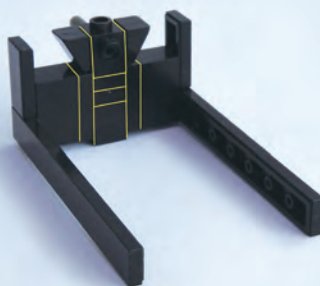
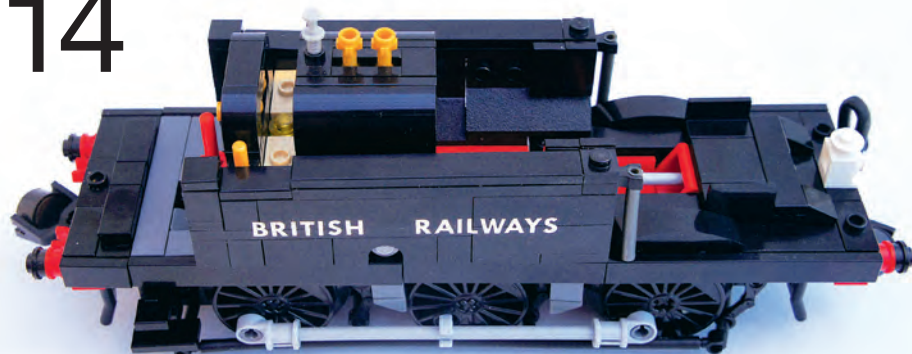


Set aside the assembly in step 12 for now. We'll need it later in the build.

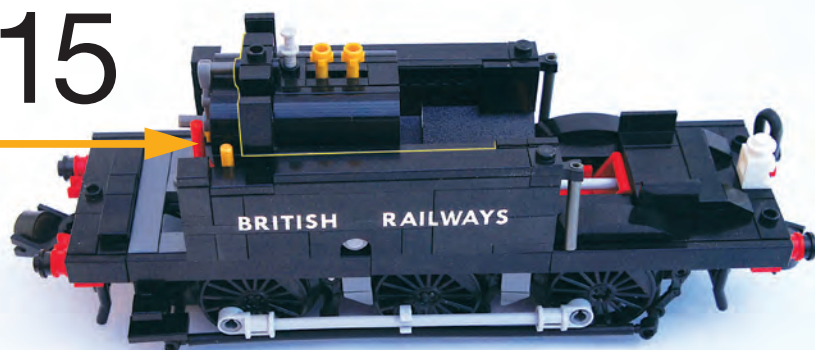
13



14



15



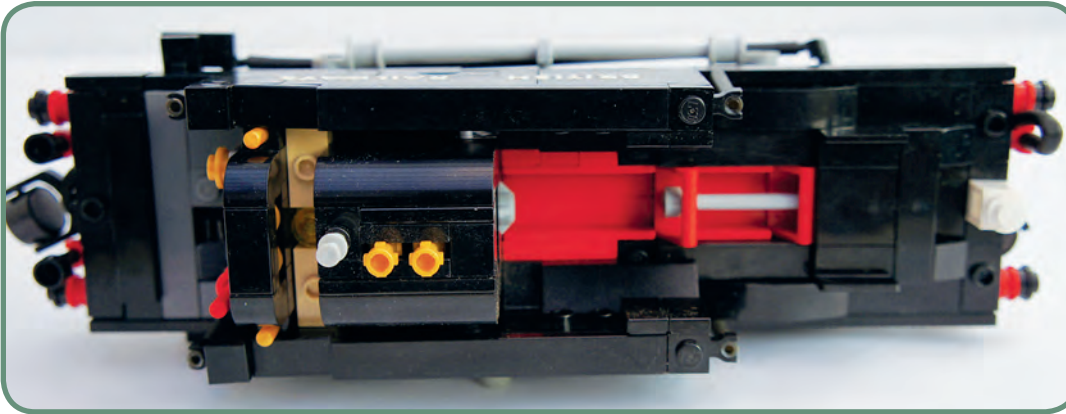
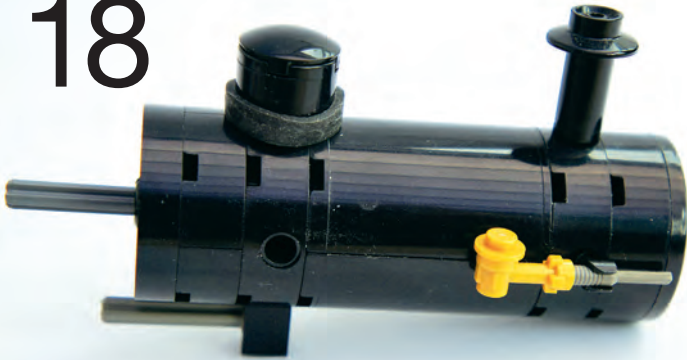
16



17



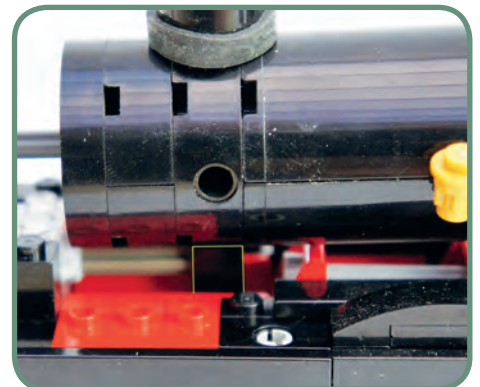
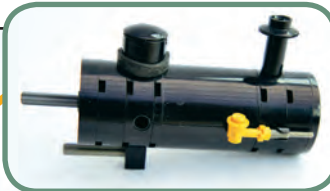
18

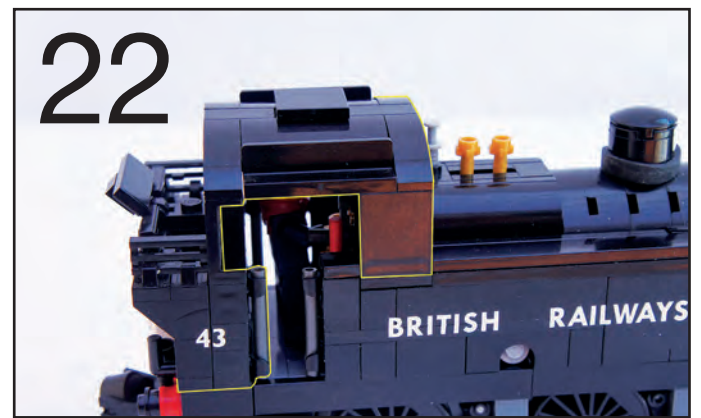
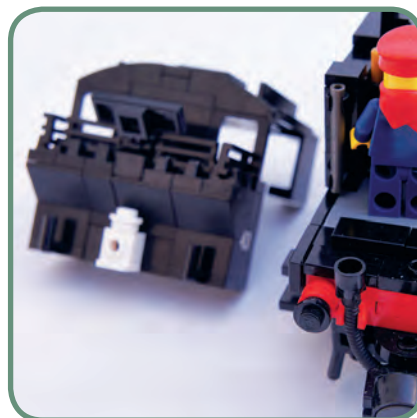
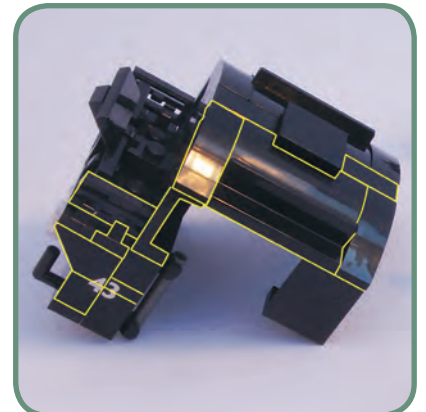
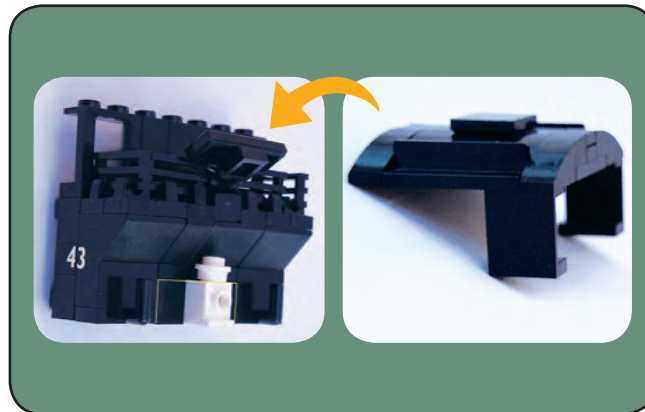
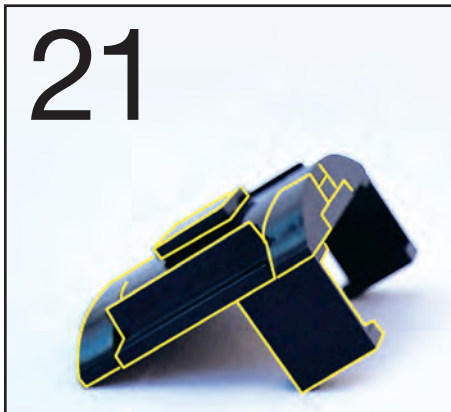
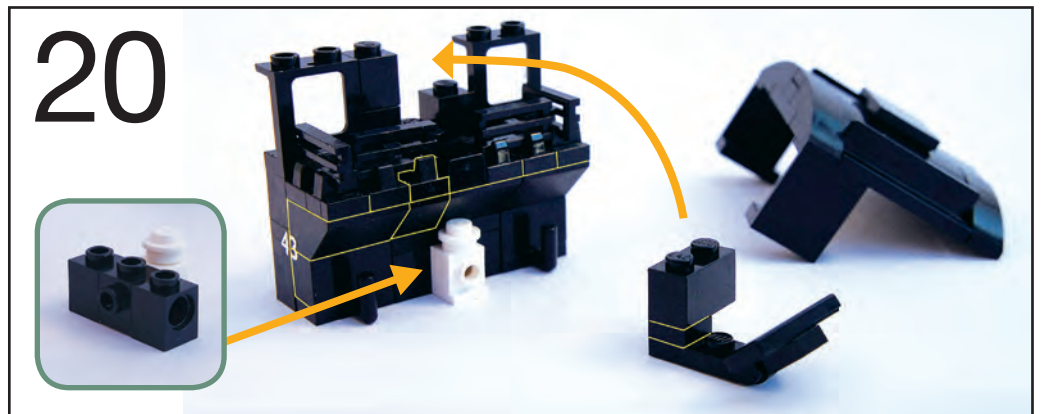
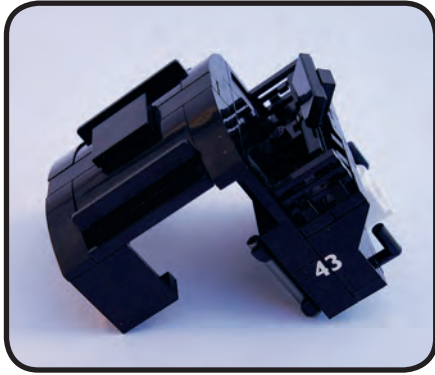


Building Tip

This very complex model is difficult to build. Carefully study the pictures and concentrate on building the small subassemblies correctly.

19







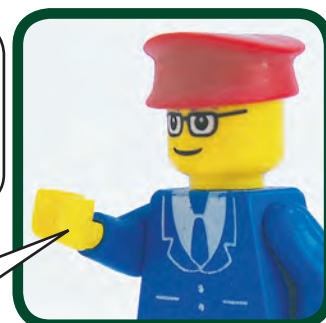
British Railways 0-6-0, Fowler Class 3F, "Jinty" Tank Engine (in operation 1924–1967)

Train Features

- Working brakes
(via cab brake lever)
- Working lit firebox
(light brick trigger via boiler)
- Removable cab section
(access to the brake lever)



WELL, YOU WERE RIGHT, CARL, THAT WAS A DIFFICULT BUILD. IT DOES GIVE ME SOME GOOD IDEAS FOR BUILDING ON TRAIN TRACKS!



YES, I LIKE A GOOD CHALLENGE! HERE, I'LL SHOW YOU MORE OF CORFE CASTLE STATION.





Corfe Castle Station



BUILDING JOURNAL

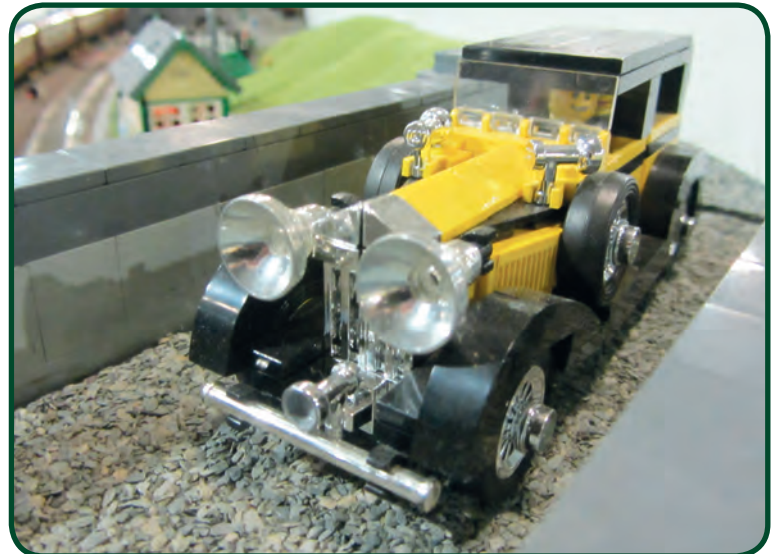
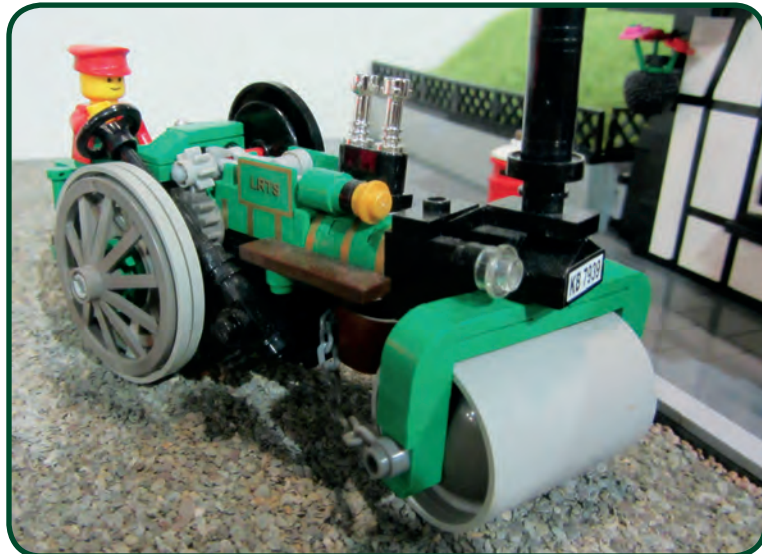
Carl uses stickers to great effect. He cuts the edges off official LEGO sticker sheets and uses them to make window frames and even stripes on some of his vehicles. He's also used his own printed stickers to create unique and accurate LEGO models. These techniques are a great way to make models look a lot more realistic, but it takes practice to get them right.





Building Tip

Think about your passengers. For example, build a bridge over the tracks so they can walk to the other platform safely. A railway station needs more than trains, too. Check out the other vehicles that workers and passengers might use.





BUILDING THE SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO ADD IN SOME FUN DETAILS.

NO, THAT'S JUST BOB. HEY, BOB, YOU'VE PUT YOUR UNDERWEAR ON LAST AGAIN!



I'LL SAY. HEY, IS THAT SUPERMAN?





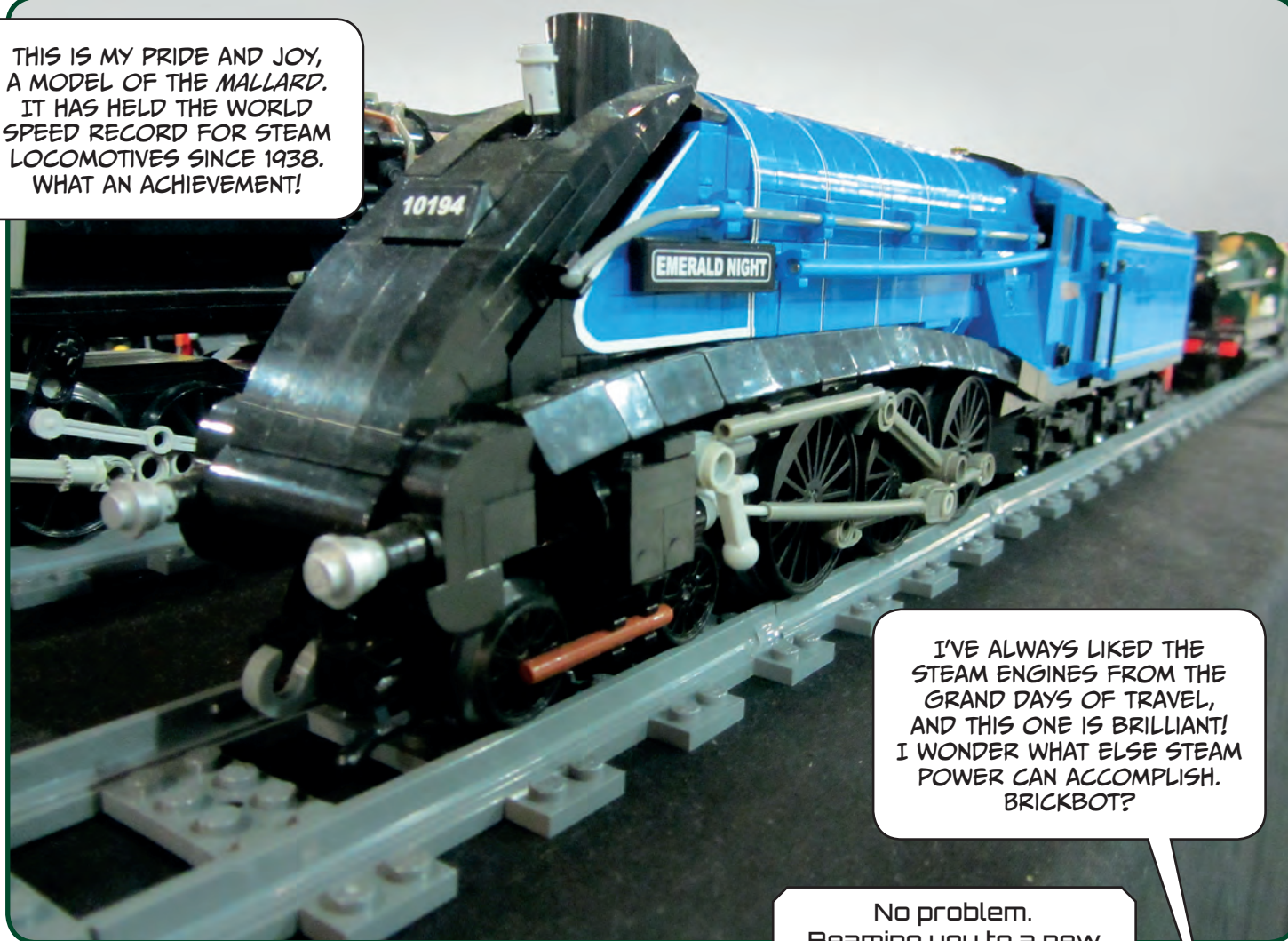
OF COURSE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO BUILD JUST STEAM TRAINS. YOU CAN BUILD DIESEL ENGINES OR EVEN ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVES IF YOU WANT TO.



BUILDING JOURNAL

Carl's trains gave me lots of great ideas. They have working lights, actually move, and are really powerful. When I get back to the Idea Lab, I'll try building something that runs on rails. I'm just not sure it will be a train like his!

THIS IS MY PRIDE AND JOY,
A MODEL OF THE MALLARD.
IT HAS HELD THE WORLD
SPEED RECORD FOR STEAM
LOCOMOTIVES SINCE 1938.
WHAT AN ACHIEVEMENT!



I'VE ALWAYS LIKED THE
STEAM ENGINES FROM THE
GRAND DAYS OF TRAVEL,
AND THIS ONE IS BRILLIANT!
I WONDER WHAT ELSE STEAM
POWER CAN ACCOMPLISH.
BRICKBOT?

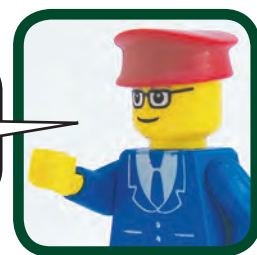
No problem.
Beaming you to a new
location now, Megs.



BYE, CARL.
THANKS FOR
EVERYTHING!



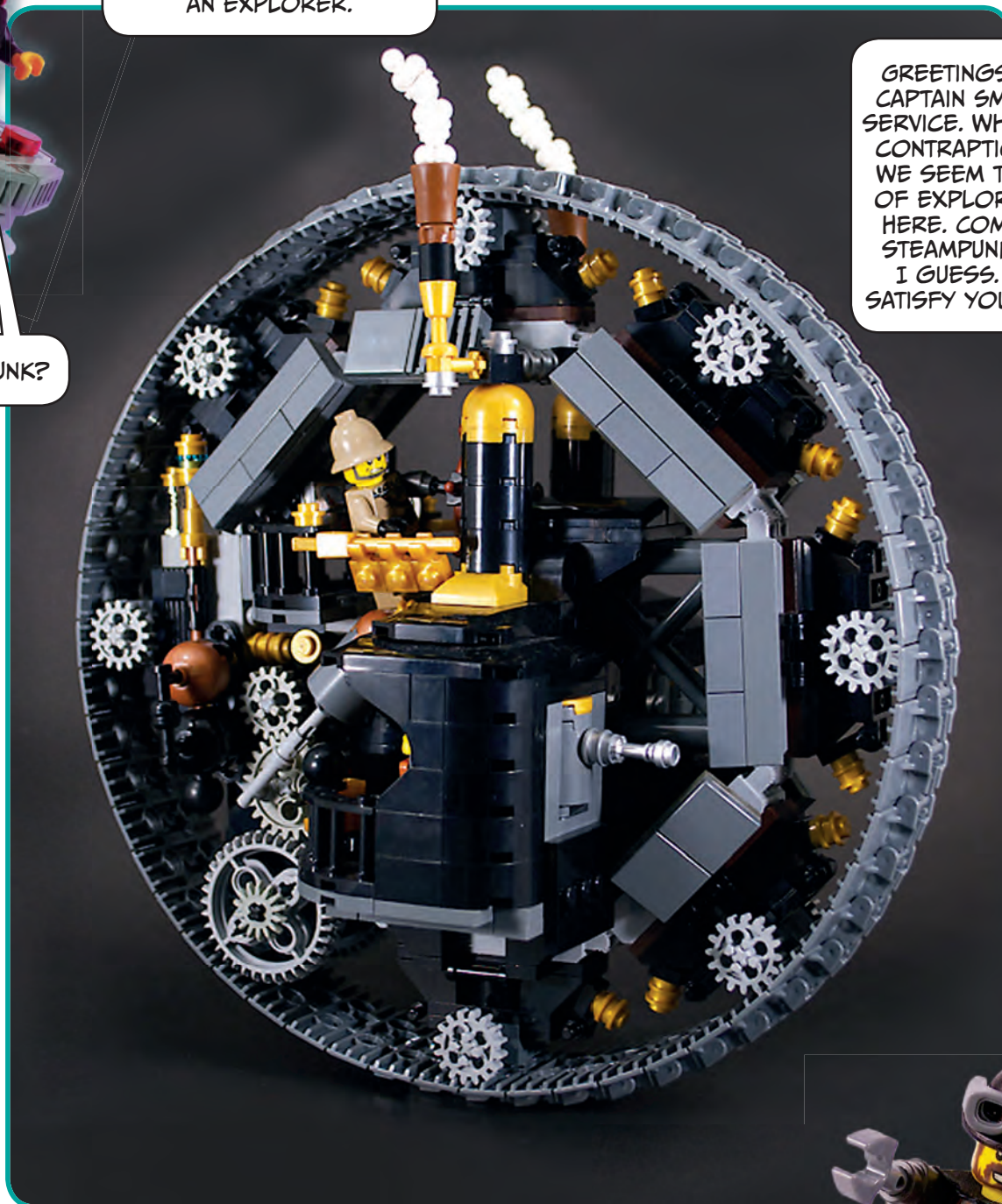
GOOD-BYE, MEGS.
WHAT A PECULIAR
LADY. QUITE NICE,
THOUGH.





OOH! NOW THAT IS COOL.
ERM...GREETINGS, MY
GOOD MAN! I'M MEGS,
AN EXPLORER.

STEAMPUNK?



GREETINGS, MILADY. I'M
CAPTAIN SMOG, AT YOUR
SERVICE. WHAT A STRANGE
CONTRAPTION YOU HAVE.
WE SEEM TO GET A LOT
OF EXPLORERS AROUND
HERE. COMES WITH THE
STEAMPUNK TERRITORY,
I GUESS. HOW MAY I
SATISFY YOUR CURIOSITY?

STEAMPUNK IS A GENRE OF SCIENCE FICTION.
IT DEPICTS WHAT THE WORLD MIGHT HAVE BEEN
LIKE IF WE HAD CONTINUED TO DEVELOP STEAM-
POWERED VEHICLES INSTEAD OF INTERNAL
COMBUSTION ENGINES, LIKE THE ONES IN
TODAY'S CARS. GEARS, BOILERS, AND STEAM
EXHAUSTS ARE ESSENTIAL TO STEAMPUNK! HERE,
LET ME SHOW YOU SOME OF MY MODELS.



Steampunk



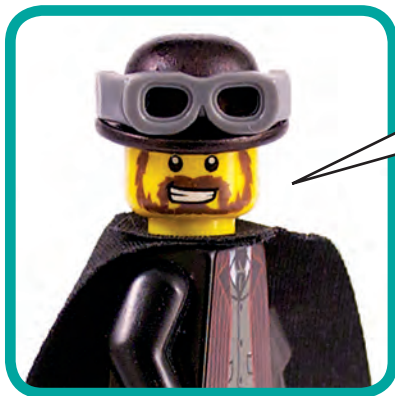
Sylvain Amacher

Nickname: Captain Smog

Profession: Graphic Designer

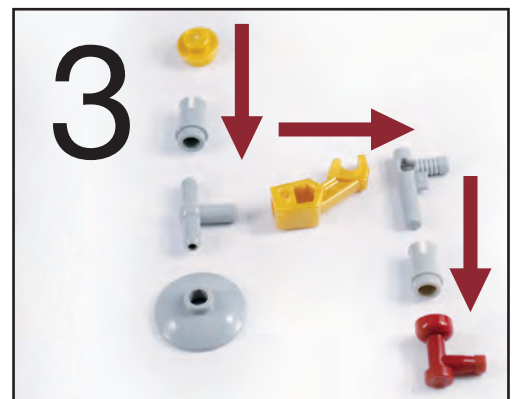
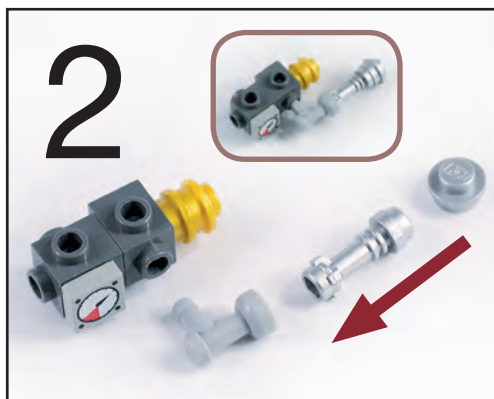
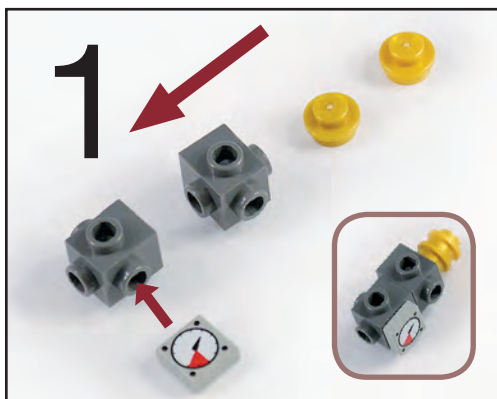
Nationality: Swiss

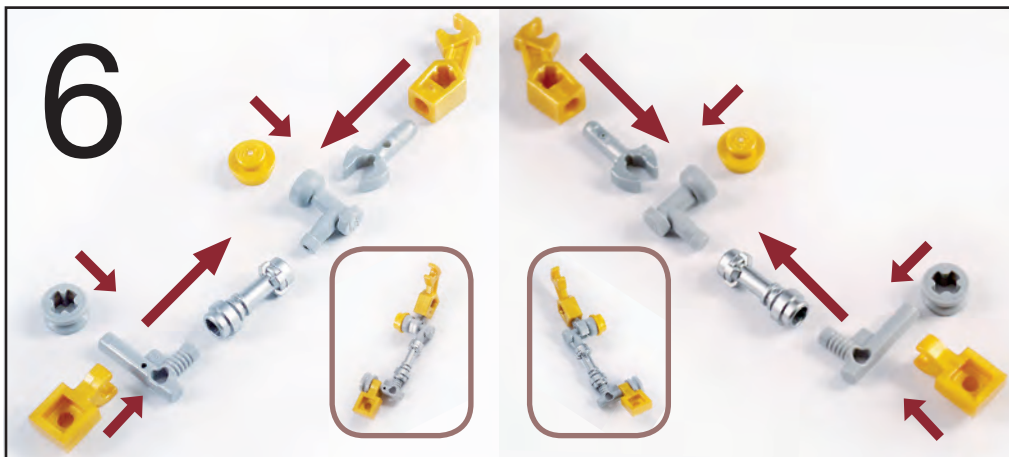
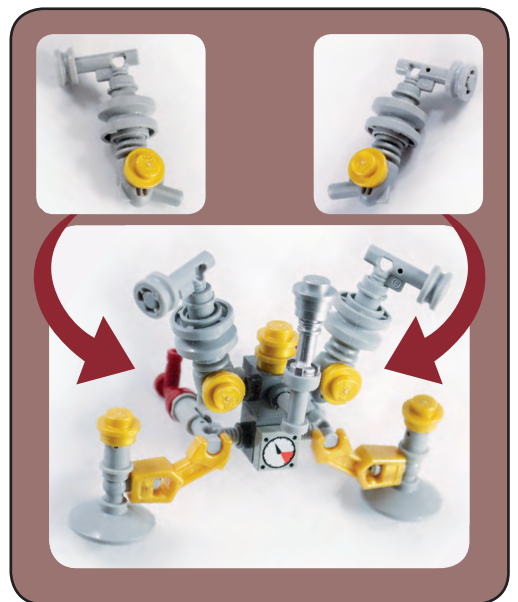
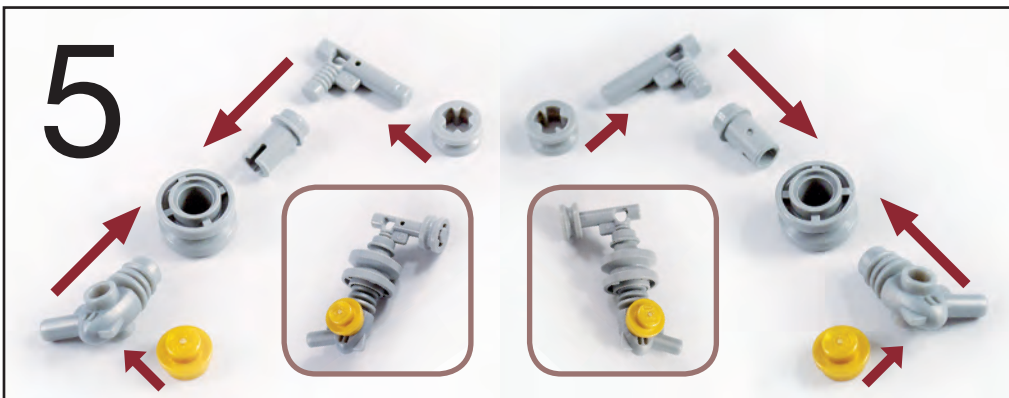
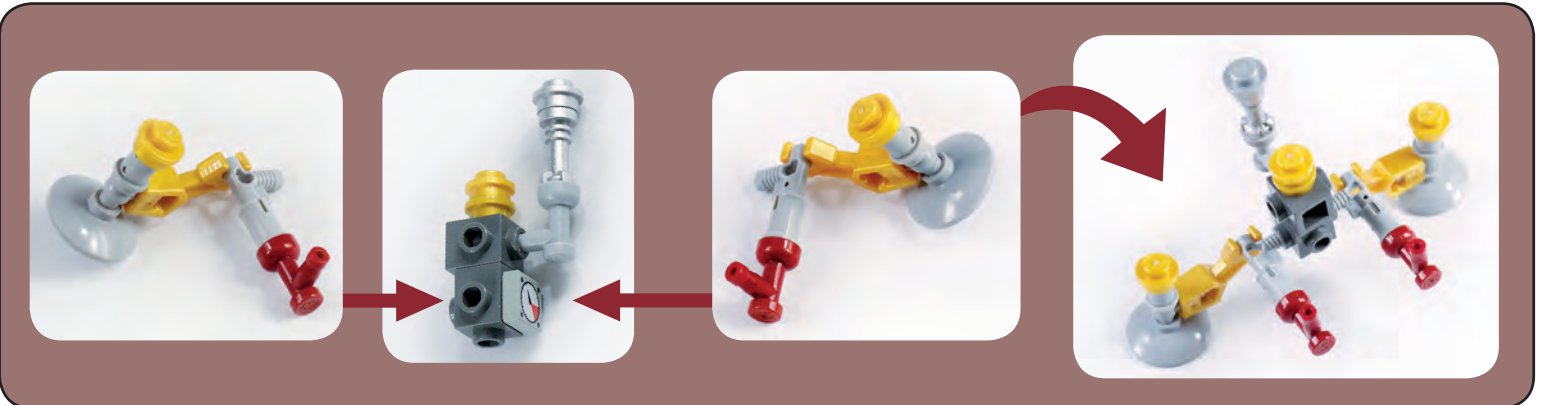
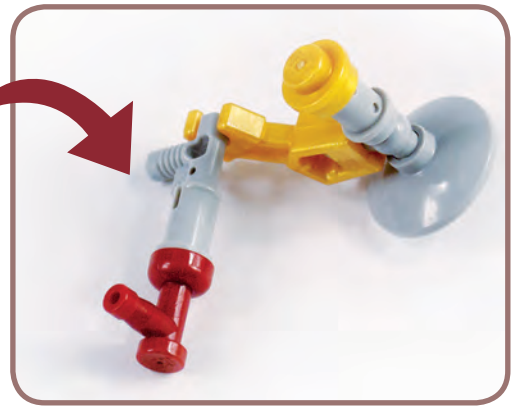
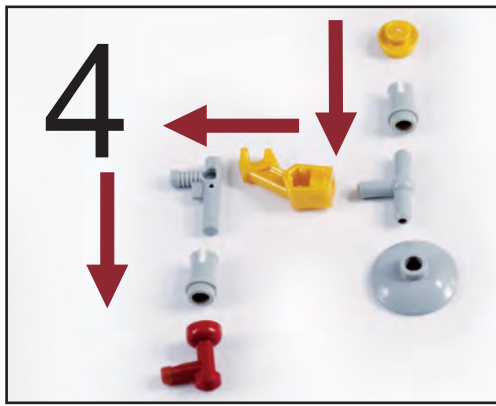
Website: www.flickr.com/photos/captainsmog/



LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO THE ARMS OF TOIL. I CREATED IT TO HELP MEN CARRYING HEAVY LOADS. YOU WILL BE USING A LOT OF SMALL PARTS TO BUILD IT; FOLLOW THE ARROWS AND YOU SHOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. WE SHALL BEGIN WITH THE CORE OF THE EXOSKELETON: THE BOILER.

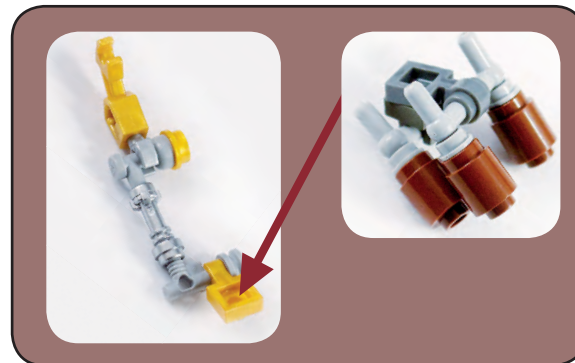
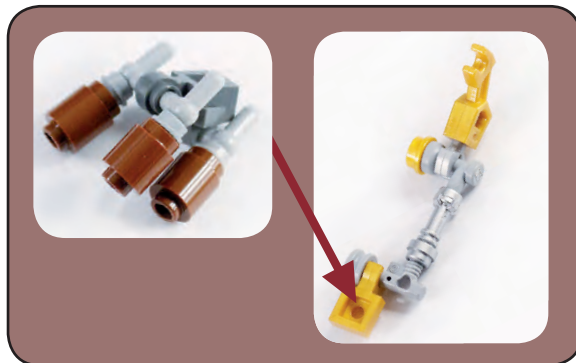
Arms of Toil





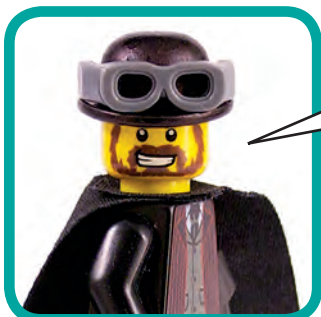
Building Tip

The color scheme is important. Gold, copper, black, brown, dark green, and dark red all help create the right Victorian feel.



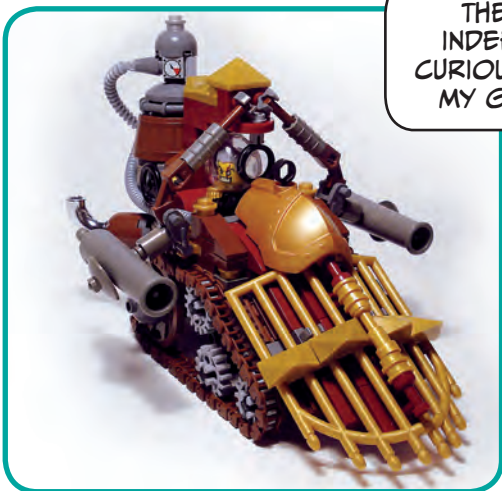
CONTRAPTION COMPLETED!
THIS IS ONLY ONE OF MANY
STEAM DEVICES YOU CAN
CREATE. LET ME SHOW YOU
SOME OTHER CONTRIVANCES.





HERE WE HAVE THE URBAN STEAM MONORAIL!
IT'S A VERY FAST WAY TO TRAVEL TO EXOTIC
DESTINATIONS. EACH CAR CAN TAKE UP TO EIGHT
PASSENGERS COMFORTABLY.





THESE ARE
INDEED SOME
CURIOUS DEVICES,
MY GOOD SIR.



OF COURSE, I HAVE MY OWN
DEVICE: THE TRANSPORT-O-LUX.
IT ALLOWS ME TO EXPLORE
INGENIOUS LEGO CREATIONS
THROUGH TIME AND OTHER
DIMENSIONS.

AHHH, THAT IS A HANDSOME
DEVICE YOU HAVE THERE.
IS IT POWERED BY THE
ALMIGHTY STEAM TOO?



NO, GOOD SIR,
'TIS IMAGINATION
THAT DRIVES THIS
FINE CRAFT.



IMAGINATION, YOU SAY? WE'VE
PLENTY OF THAT TO GO
AROUND HERE! COME, MISS,
LET US EXPLORE THE INFINITE
POSSIBILITIES OF THE IRON LEGS.



The Iron Legs



SPIFFING,
MY GOOD MAN.
THESE ARE
QUITE TALL
CONTRAPTIONS,
INDEED.



BUILDING JOURNAL

Steampunk seems like a really difficult genre to get right. It's part steam power, part clockwork, and part science fiction. I should look at some real steam-powered vehicles from the Victorian era and borrow some details from them. The metal parts are often painted bright colors to stop them from rusting, the machinery is metal cogs, and the delicate parts are made of brass. Steam engines need big boilers and have chimneys, too.



AH, BRICKBOT, MY
CLEVER MECHANICAL
WONDER!

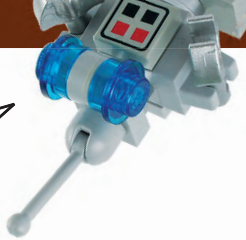
INDEED, I AM, MY SHINY
FRIEND! WHAT IS IT
THAT YOU REQUIRE?

Megs? Can
you hear me?

My syntax sensors
detect that you must be
in a steampunk empire!

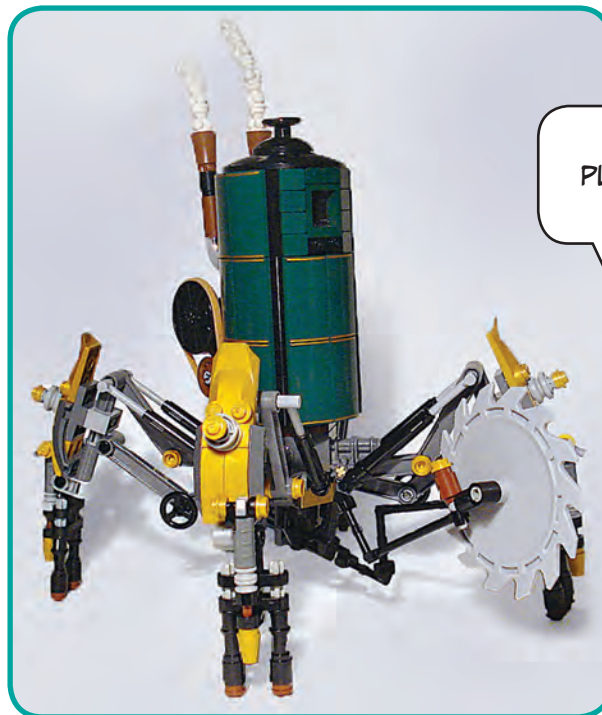


I just received a message from someone named Katie that says, "Megs, I think you'll like this." She has attached some coordinates.



WELL, THAT IS AN UNEXPECTED TURN OF EVENTS. BEAM ME AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE TO THOSE DISTANT COORDINATES. LET US DEPART POSTHASTE!

THANK YOU KINDLY FOR SHARING YOUR KNOWLEDGE, CAPTAIN SMOG. SADLY, I MUST TAKE MY LEAVE NOW FOR PARTS UNKNOWN! I WISH YOU FINE LUCK WITH YOUR FUTURE CREATIONS.



IT WAS MY PLEASURE, MILADY. BON VOYAGE!



THIS IS JUST A SMALL CASTLE. WHY WOULD KATIE SEND ME HERE?



IT DOES LOOK A LITTLE FAMILIAR, LIKE AARON'S HILLTOP TOWER.



HI, I'M MEGS. WHAT A NICE HOUSE YOU HAVE.

GOOD TO MEET YOU. I'M DANIEL. MY HOUSE IS BASED ON A CASTLE I DESIGNED FOR THE LEGO GROUP A LONG TIME AGO.



YOU? YOU DESIGNED THE YELLOW CASTLE? IT WAS MY FAVORITE THING IN THE WORLD WHEN I WAS A KID! THANK YOU, ON BEHALF OF SO MANY PEOPLE.

IT WAS JUST ONE OF THE LEGO SETS I DESIGNED, BUT I AM REALLY GLAD TO HEAR PEOPLE LIKED IT. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, MEGS?

I'M TRAVELING TO SEE WHAT PEOPLE HAVE MADE AND TO GET INSPIRATION FOR MY OWN MODELS.



FOLLOW ME THEN. I HAVE SOME COOL BUILDINGS JUST OVER THERE.

A LEGO Legend



Daniel August Krentz

Profession: Retired LEGO Designer

Nationality: American/Danish



YOU MAY TRY BUILDING
MY YELLOW CASTLE
HOUSE IF YOU LIKE.

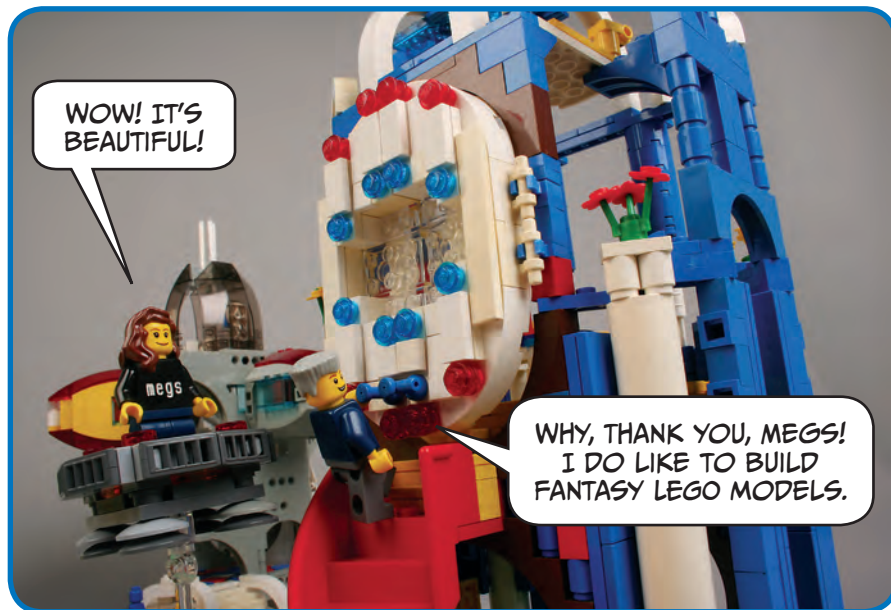


YOU KNOW, A LONG TIME AGO A FRIEND AND I ALSO TRAVELED THROUGH MANY DIFFERENT WORLDS EXPLORING DIFFERENT CREATIONS. I THINK THE LEGO GROUP EVEN WROTE A BOOK ABOUT IT.

REALLY? I WONDER IF ANYONE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN MY ADVENTURES.

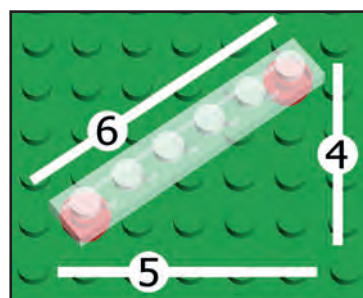
I THINK THEY WOULD. YOU SHOULD GET A BOOK MADE! ANYWAY, LET'S HAVE A LOOK INSIDE MY THINKING TOWER.





Thinking Tower

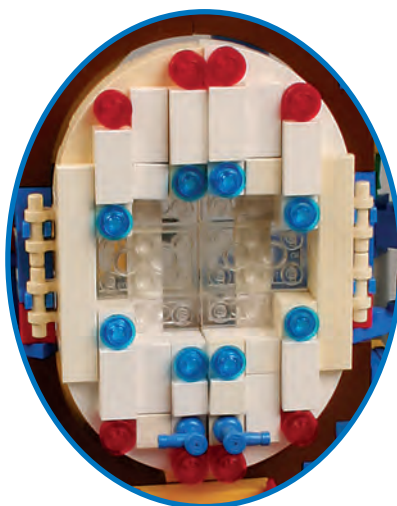
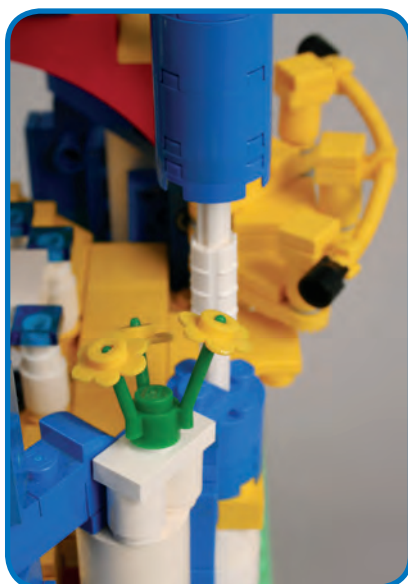




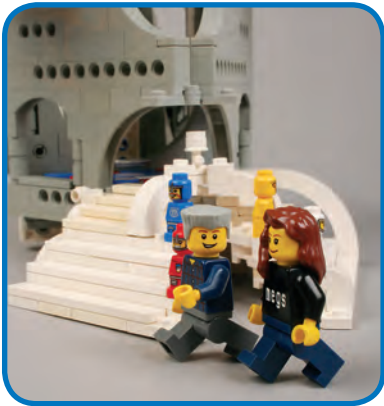
THAT'S LEGO GEOMETRY! A SIX-STUD ARCH WILL LINE UP IF IT IS TWISTED UNTIL IT IS FOUR STUDS UP AND FIVE STUDS OVER. THERE ARE QUITE A FEW WAYS BRICKS CAN BE PLACED DIAGONALLY, AND IT'S QUITE DIFFICULT TO BUILD LARGE STRUCTURES WITH THEM. I ENJOY THAT KIND OF CHALLENGE.

Building Tip

To figure out the diagonal possibilities of LEGO bricks, take a brick (or a plate) and put any 1x1 element on each end. Attach one end of the brick to a baseplate, and rotate it until it reaches a stud. Does it fit without being forced? Congratulations, you have discovered a usable building connection. To create a smooth surface between your connection points, cover the exposed studs with tiles.



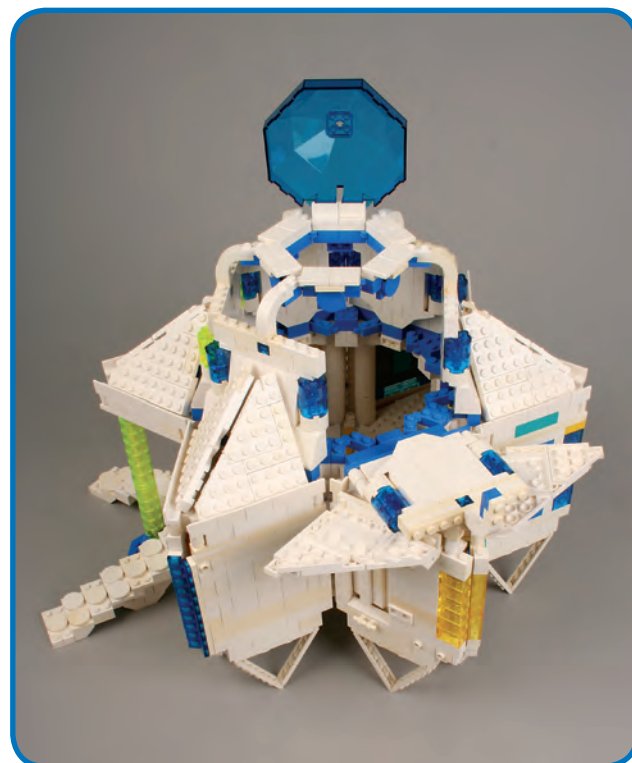
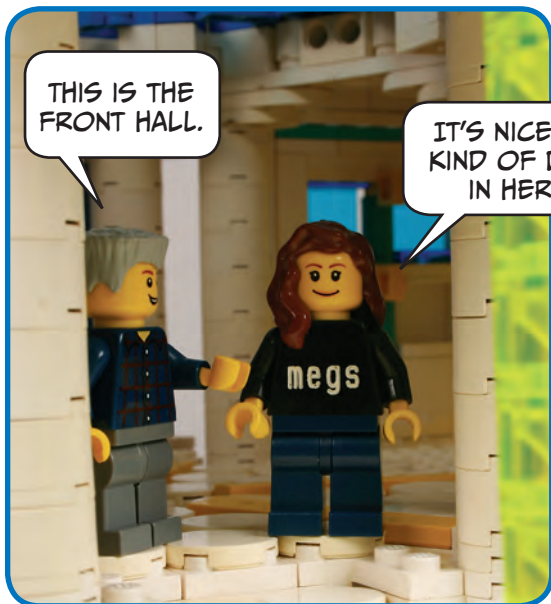




Idea Temple

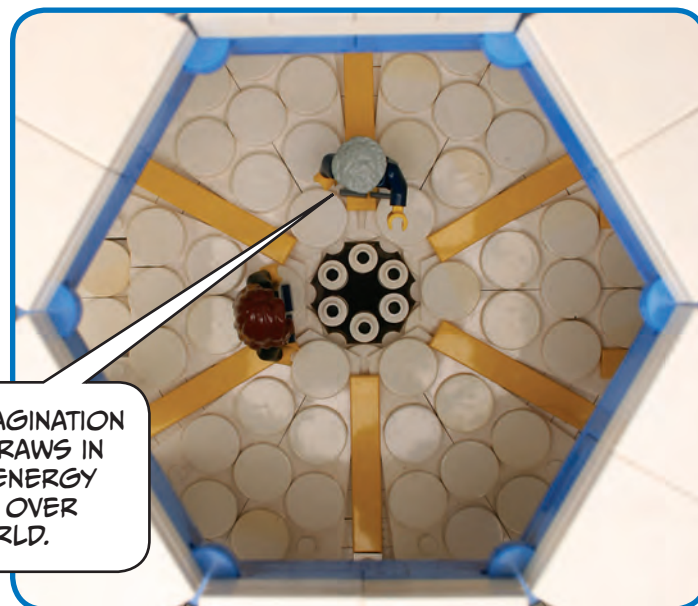
THIS IS MY IDEA TEMPLE.
ITS SHAPE IS BASED ON
A SIX-POINTED STAR.

NEAT!





WOW, WHAT IS THIS ROOM FOR?



THIS IS MY IMAGINATION FOCUS. IT DRAWS IN IDEAS AND ENERGY FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.

BUILDING JOURNAL

I can't really describe what it was like in the Idea Nexus. I don't even know how long I lay there. All of the places I had visited and all of the models I had seen suddenly merged together in my head. I felt my creativity levels boosted, and I knew I had to get back to my Idea Lab and Brickbot and start building.



HERE, GIVE IT A TRY. JUST LAY YOUR HEAD DOWN AT THE NEXUS POINT.

OH, WOW!
THIS IS AWESOME!!!



THANKS SO MUCH FOR SHOWING ME AROUND, DANIEL. AND THANKS, TOO, FOR EVERYTHING YOU DESIGNED FOR THE LEGO GROUP!

IT WAS MY PLEASURE, MEGS. GOOD-BYE, AND GOOD BUILDING!



THE END
(for now)

1



**Megan
Rothrock**

Nickname: megs/megzter

Profession: Toy Designer

Nationality: American

Website: www.flickr.com/photos/megzter/

Thank you to all the wonderful and
creative featured builders:

2



**Craig
Mandeville**

3



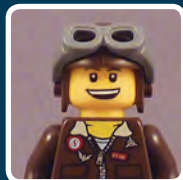
**Are J.
Heiseldal**

4



**Moritz
Nolting**

5



Jon Hall

6



Pete Reid

7



**Peter
Morris**

8



**Mark
Stafford**

9



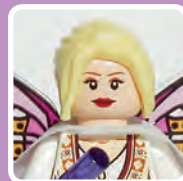
**Aaron
Andrews**

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**Mike
Psiaki**

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**Katie
Walker**

12



**Carl
Greatrix**

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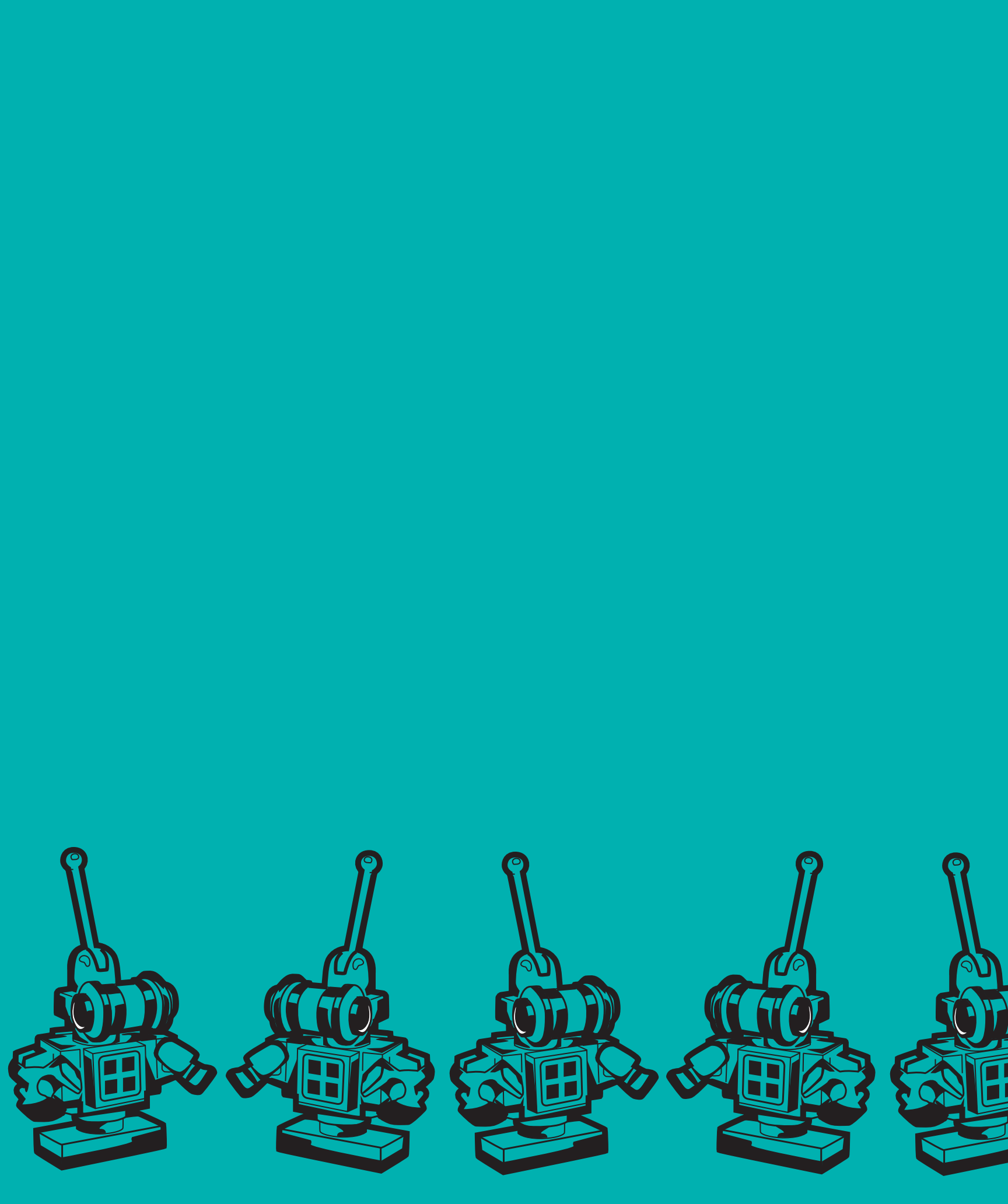


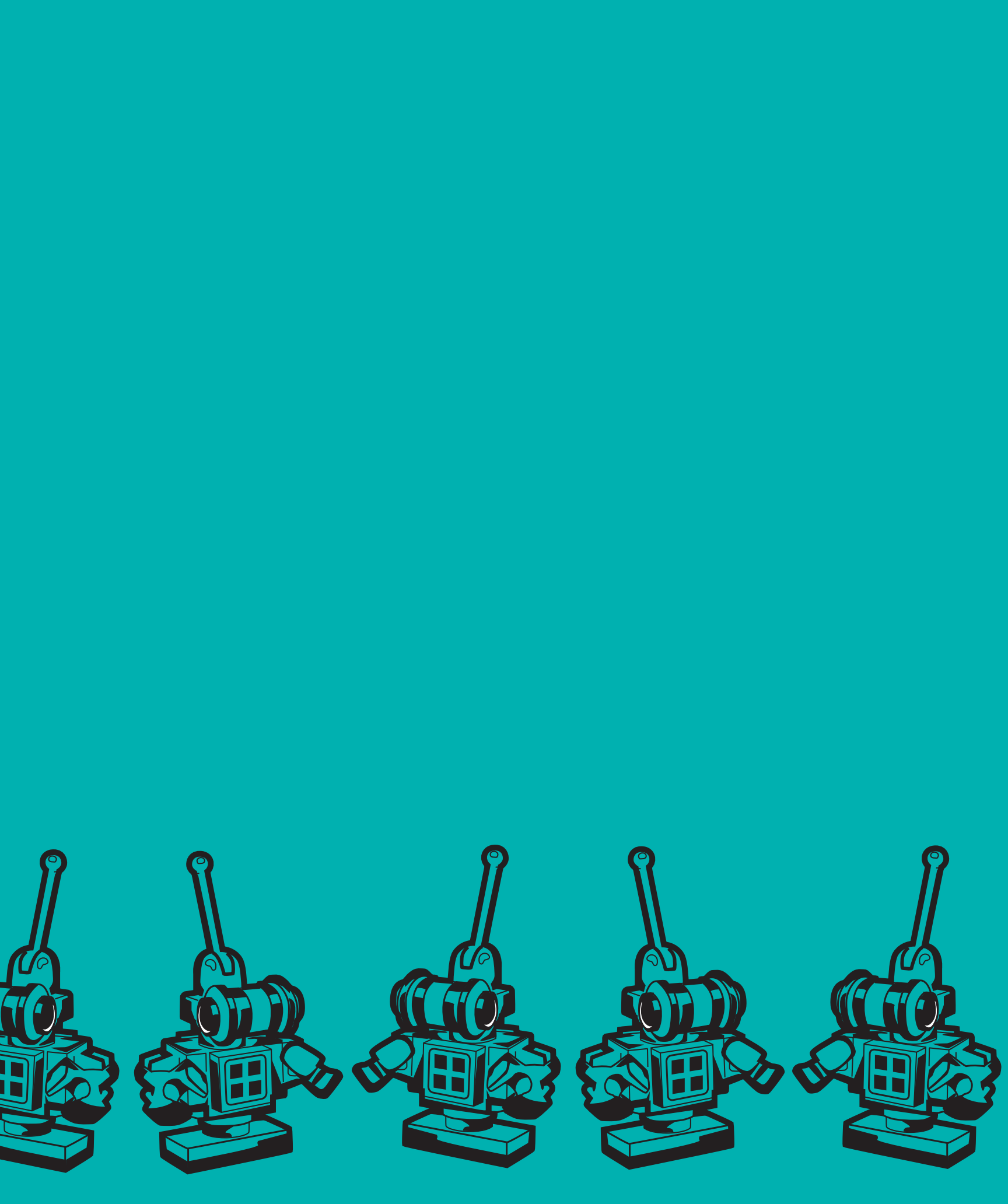
**Sylvain
Amacher**

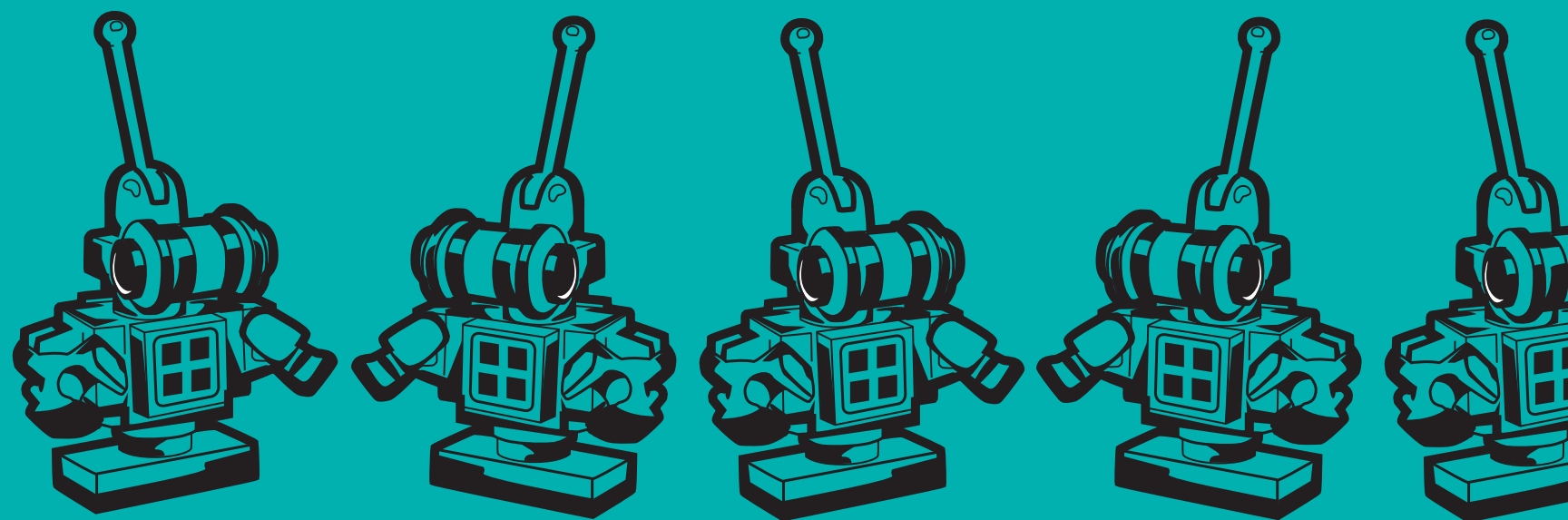
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