



**Long Activity**  
**Ages 3–5**  
**30–60 minutes**

## **Velcro Popsicle Sticks**

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### **Description**

This STEM program encourages kids to build by connecting craft/popsicle sticks with Velcro.

### **Number of Participants**

For a minimum of 1 participant

### **Space Considerations**

An indoor or outdoor activity on the ground or with tables and chairs for all participants

### **Competencies**

- Development of fine motor skills
- Engineering
- Spatial relationships
- Understanding shapes
- Understanding cause and effect relationships
- Working collaboratively

### **Materials**

- Craft, popsicle or bigger sticks (preferably coloured)
- Velcro dot stickers—smaller dots can be purchased at craft stores or online
- Design template
- Paper
- Pencils

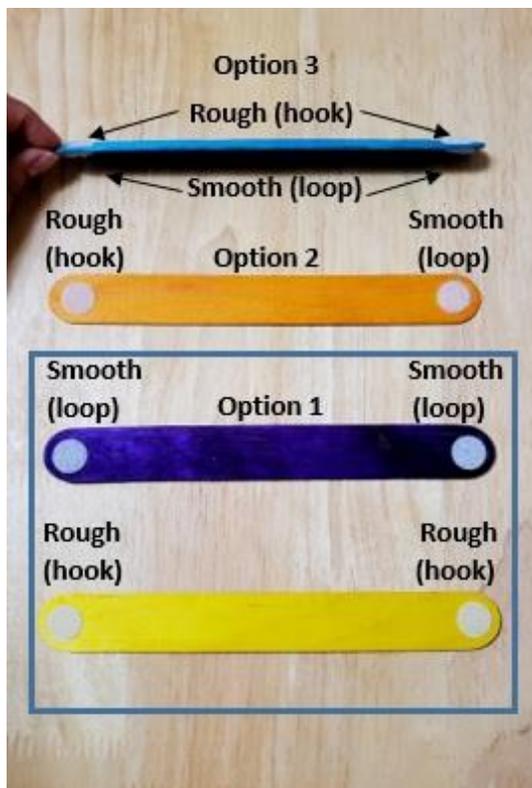
### **Preparation**

- Put paper and pencils in a designated area for everyone to access
- Check sticks for potential wood splinters

- Apply velcro to sticks (You can choose to make this part of the activity, instead of part of preparation)

## Implementation

1. Give each participant a set amount of sticks.
  - We recommend 8–10 sticks per participant if possible or you can distribute based on the number of participants.
2. Participants apply velcro stickers to the craft sticks (optional—you can prepare these in advance).
  - Option 1: Prepare equal amounts of these two types of sticks
    - Two rough (hook) stickers on each end of one side
    - Two smooth (loop) stickers on each end of one side
  - Option 2: One rough (hook) sticker on one end and one smooth (loop) sticker on the other end
  - Option 3: Two smooth (loop) stickers on each end of one side and two rough (hook) stickers on each end of the other side



3. Have the participants try one of the examples in the design template.
4. Explain that participants are free to work solo and the advantage of working in a group (more sticks).

5. Give participants the rest of the time to create whatever they like.

## Accessibility Considerations

- Use large craft sticks or bigger sticks, as well as larger Velcro stickers. (Ensure that the Velcro stickers and sticks match in size.)
- Give kids the option to do the activity on their own or in teams, as desired.

## Book Suggestions

*Boxitects* by Kim Smith

*Gurple and Preen: A Broken Crayon Cosmic Adventure* by Linda Sue Park

*Follow Your Breath! A First Book of Mindfulness* by Scot Ritchie

## Images and Templates

Large craft sticks



Regular popsicle sticks



# Design Templates

