popoids

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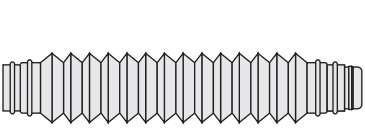
Introduction

Construction kits have, for some considerable time, been used in Early Years (3-6) classrooms to develop fine motor coordination and encourage imaginative play. The full potential of POPOIDS can be reached when opportunities beyond this are identified making use of the unique flexing properties of POPOIDS. This construction system provides an ideal initial resource to enable children to develop their design technology capability. Mathematical activities such as comparing, measuring, sequencing and sorting can also form the basis of POPOIDS tasks.

Suggestions will be given as to:

- the potential learning objectives for children to work towards;
- the skills - spatial, social and manipulative, that the children might develop;
- where the practice of simple manipulative skills might develop into mathematical activities;
- how the full range of POPOIDS components may be used;
- how the POPOIDS components can be connected together;
- some of the models that POPOIDS can be used to make.

The Popoids Range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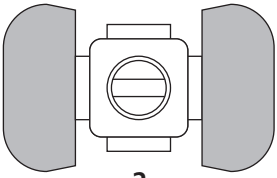
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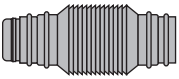
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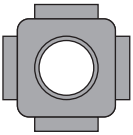
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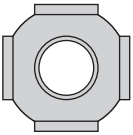
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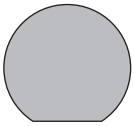
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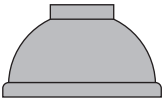
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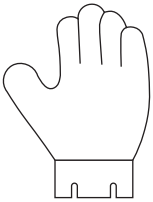
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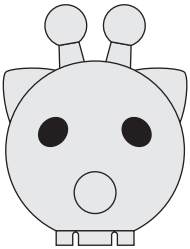
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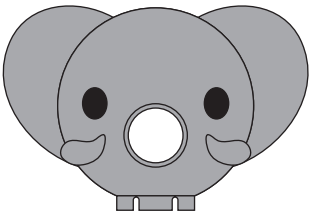
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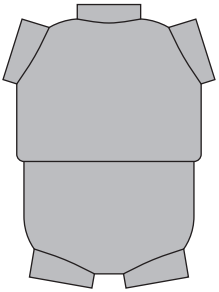
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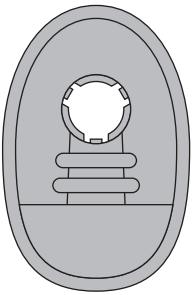
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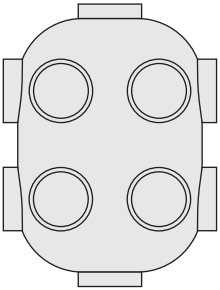
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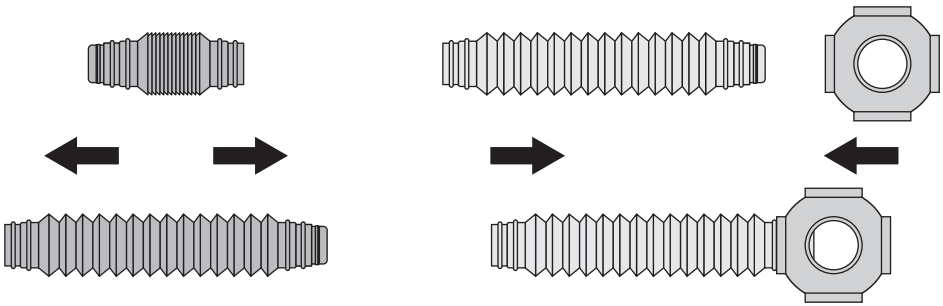
1	Popoids	6	Ball	11	Head
2	Wheel	7	Foot	12	Body
3	Popoids	8	Hand	13	Shoe
4	Cube Connector	9	Giraffe Head	14	Animal Body
5	Ball Connector	10	Elephant Head		

Using Popoids

POPOIDS can develop from early ‘free play’ activities, which focus on basic manipulative and social (sharing) skills, into simple mathematical activities. Sorting (by colour or size) can progress into sequencing, connecting components together in either a given or self-defined order of colour. Because of the ability of the basic POPOID component to extend, it is also possible to compare and place the pieces in order of length. The ability to bend also allows sorting and ordering by shape.

As a construction system, POPOIDS is designed to promote an exploratory and creative approach to working within the sphere of ‘design and technology’ to develop an understanding of the underlying principles involved. The great advantage of POPOIDS over many other construction systems is the ability to bend and extend, allowing young children much greater flexibility when designing and building their models. By using copies of the designs enclosed in this booklet the children will be encouraged to collect the components required and connect them together to match the pictures. Following the basic construction they are then asked to use their model to explore its various properties - size, balance, or, in the case of the POPOID PHONE, the sound quality!

Connecting POPOIDS components together.



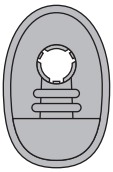
Tall & Short

Make 2 Popoid People

You will need

2

4



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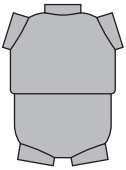

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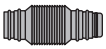

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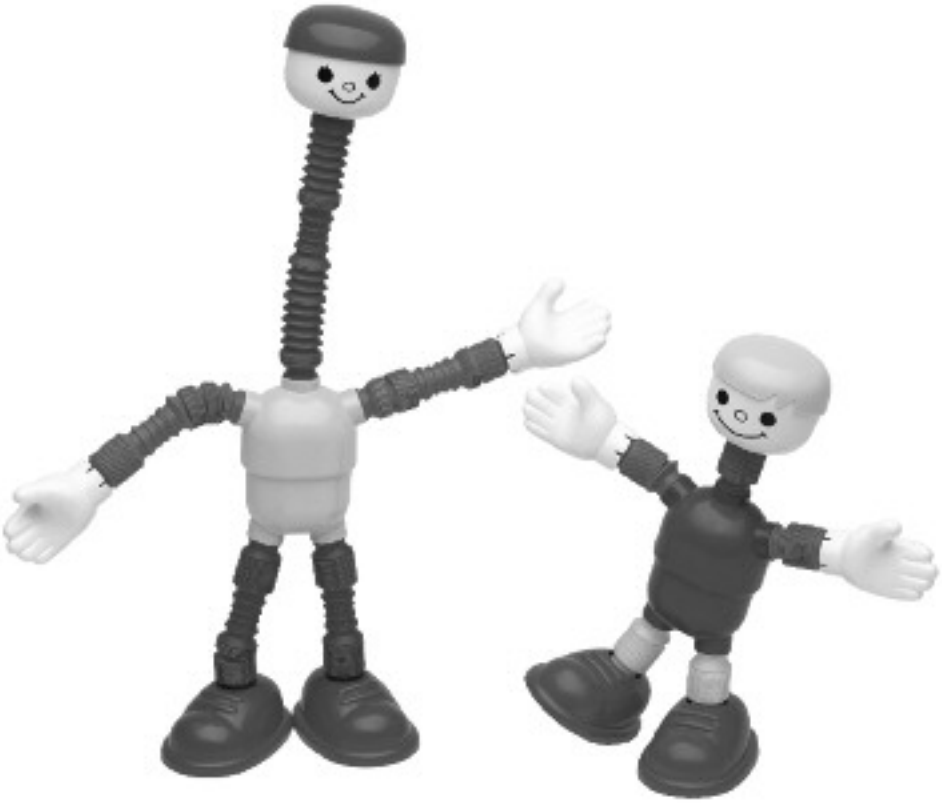
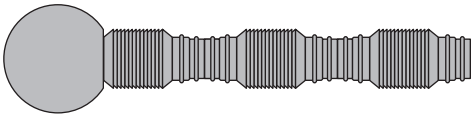


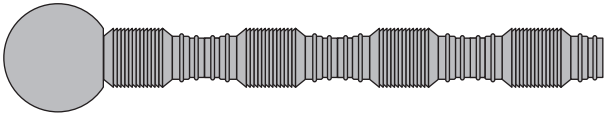
- ❑ Make one taller
- ❑ Make one shorter
- ❑ Make one the tallest
- ❑ Make one the shortest

Stretching Snakes

Make 2 snakes



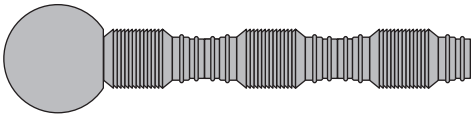
3 popoids



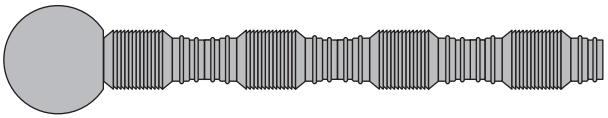
4 popoids

❏ Stetch a snake to make them both the same length
❏ Can you make it as long as a 5 popoid snake?

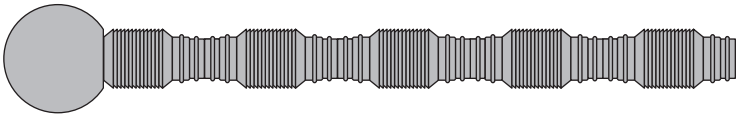
Make 3 snakes



3 popoids



4 popoids

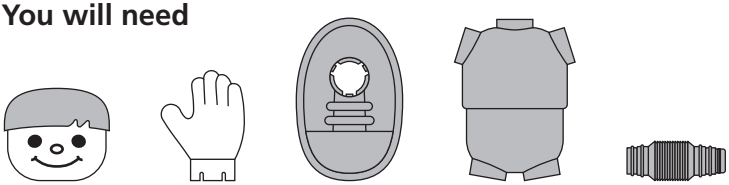


5 popoids

❏ Can you make all 3 snakes the same length?

Posing Popoid People

You will need

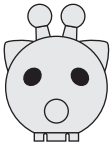


1 2 2 1 6

- ❏ Can you make your Popoid Person stand on one leg?
- ❏ Can you make your Popoid Person bend?
- ❏ How else can you balance your Popoid Person?
- ❏ Draw your Popoid Person in a pose.

Popoid Zoo

To make these animals you will need



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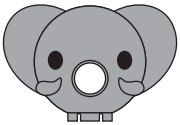

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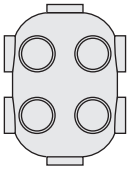

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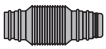


30

giraffe

kangaroo

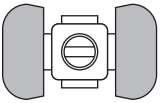
elephant

lizard

❑ Can you make any other animals for your zoo?

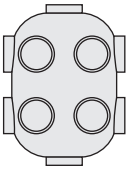
Popoid Vacumn Cleaner

You will need



1

1



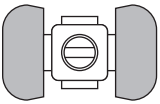
1

4

❑ Can you build any other machines?

Popoid Pull-along

You will need



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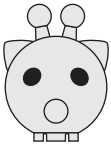


1

2

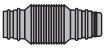
- ❑ Pull your toy along.
- ❑ Can you make it go in circles?
- ❑ Is it better when it is longer or shorter?

Tables & Chairs

To make a table you will need

4

4



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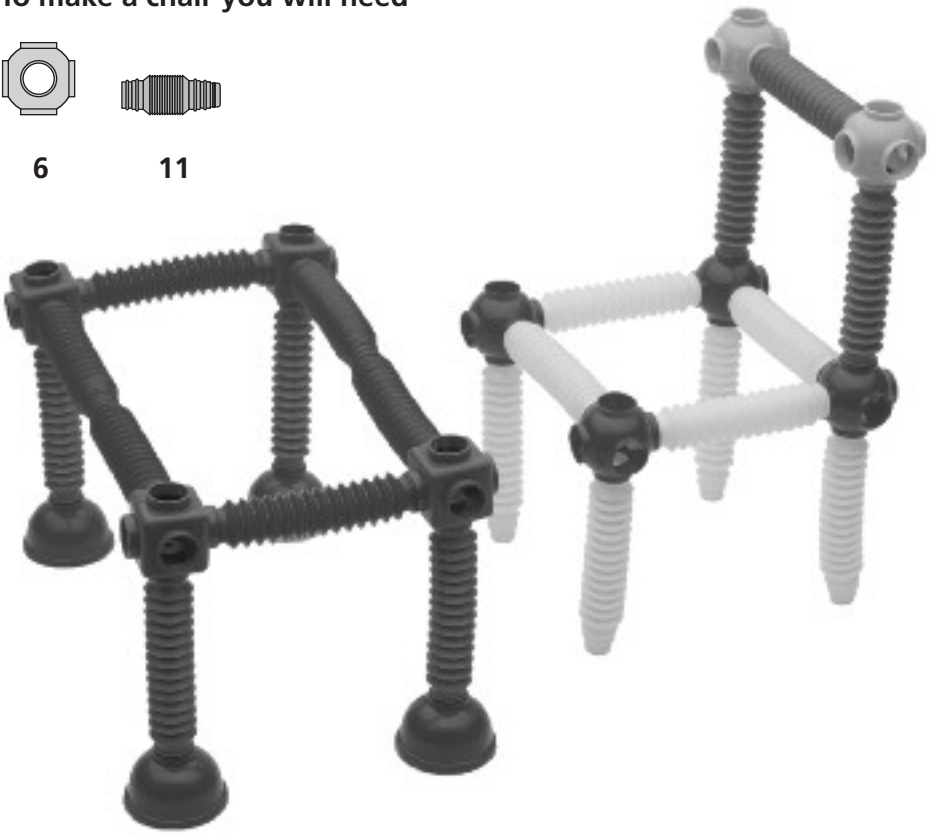
To make a chair you will need

6

11



❑ Does the chair fit under the table?

❑ Can a Popoid Person sit at your table?

Popoid Tower

❏ How tall can you build a tower?

Try using

2

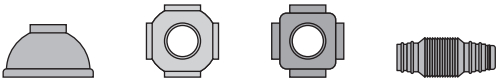
15

❏ Can you make it balance?

❏ Can you build it taller?

Popoid Bridge

You will need



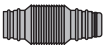
4 4 4 14

- ❏ How tall can you make your bridge?
- ❏ How low can you make your bridge?
- ❏ How long can you make your bridge?
- ❏ How short can you make your bridge?
- ❏ How wide can you make your bridge?
- ❏ How narrow can you make your bridge?
- ❏ How strong is it?
- ❏ Can the Popoid Pull-along go under your bridge?

Popoid Phone

You will need

2



8+

- ❏ How long can you make your Popoid Phone?
- ❏ Talk to a friend on your phone.
- ❏ How well does it work?

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