

# KAPLA



## Information Booklet

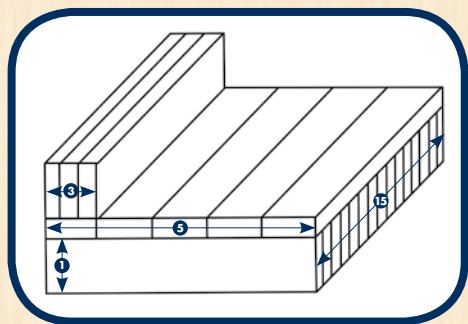
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# What is KAPLA ?



KAPLA is a wooden construction toy. The game is made up of a set of identical blocks made from pine. The unique size of the blocks, which are in the ratio of 1:3:15, makes them ideal for building many kinds of structures.



We offer you some suggestions for building techniques, but they are only there to help stimulate the children's inventiveness. The possibilities are infinite. With KAPLA, children are free to build, create and experiment by using their own imagination.



The KAPLA-concept is simple. It needs no glue, no screws, no clips to fix the blocks. Each block is simply placed one on top of the other. The blocks are held in place by gravity and balance alone.



## KAPLA in your classroom

In this section you will find some ideas on how to use KAPLA within your classroom. You can let children play by themselves or get them to work together on a project by giving them a broad theme to work with. Of course you can also incorporate KAPLA into your educational programme.



On the following pages you will find some possible themes to work with.



# KAPLA in your classroom : construction ideas

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**Build a construction around a child**

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## KAPLA in your classroom : construction ideas

### Build a WALL together



### Build a CASTLE together



## KAPLA in your classroom : construction ideas



**For the older children**

Let your pupils build different towers and explore different building methods. The children could try to create the highest tower possible. Afterwards they could analyse and discuss which building methods are most effective to create a solid construction.

**And the little ones**



## KAPLA in your classroom : construction ideas

On this page you will find some possible themes to work with. Of course, you are free to choose your own project and explore different themes together with the children.



### Water and Land

Make a line on the floor with the blocks to divide the floor into two sides. One side represents the sea. The other side represents the mainland. Let the children choose one side of the floor. The children have to create buildings

that correspond to the sea or the mainland. They can for example build boats and oil platforms on the sea and warehouses and an airport on the mainland.

### Zoo or Farm

The children could build the different stables or cages. They could create the animals within the stables or cages using their own inspiration.



# KAPLA in your classroom : construction ideas

## Language

You can use the KAPLA blocks when teaching basic language skills. Get the children to lay out letters on the floor and then correctly pronounce each letter.

## Geometry

With KAPLA, children can develop a basic knowledge of geometry by creating different geometrical shapes (triangles, squares, pentagrams, cubes etc.).

## Physics

The children could start to discover the laws of physics by constructing the strongest bridge possible. Afterwards the children could analyse why certain constructions are more stable and stronger than others.

## History

As part of a history lesson, you can help the children get acquainted with ancient civilisations. Divide the children into different groups and assign a civilisation to each group, like Romans, Greeks and Egyptians. Let the children create buildings that correspond to their civilisation.



## KAPLA in your classroom : construction ideas

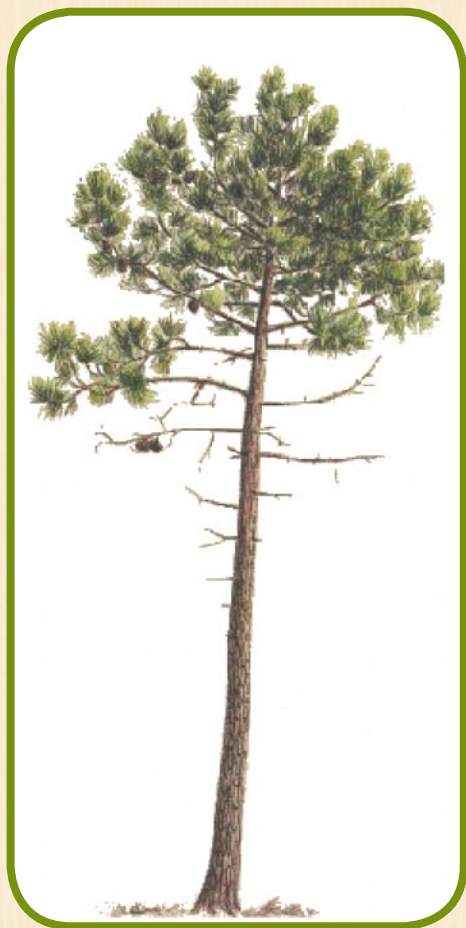
These examples may have already got you thinking on your own ideas and made you excited to start working with KAPLA. Ideas or no ideas, you will see that the children will be eager to start building by themselves. Just spread out the blocks on the floor and you will see that the children will create the most extraordinary constructions using their own imagination.



We hope you are motivated to introduce KAPLA within your school, allowing the children to play and to learn at the same time!



## KAPLA : a high-quality product



KAPLA is made out of 100 % untreated wood. The wood comes from the pine forests of Les Landes, a natural renewable forest situated in the south-west of France. KAPLA is a durable and high quality toy which will last for many years.



All our raw materials are carefully selected and tested by specialised independent laboratories. Furthermore, our products are subjected to high-quality controls and meet all national and international standards.



High-precision manufacturing ensures that each block is perfectly balanced and smooth. The blocks are all the same size but the grain of the wood makes every one of them unique.

## KAPLA : an educational tool

KAPLA is an educational tool and is used as such in the French National Educational System. The game possesses a high educational value. Building with KAPLA enhances a child's creativity and develops his/her architectural skills as it contains basic elements of both architecture and creative arts and crafts.

### Logical thinking

First of all KAPLA encourages children to think logically and helps them to develop their spatial awareness. Through the use of identical unfixed pieces, KAPLA develops the child's capacity to organize elements in a three-dimensional way. With KAPLA, children acquire a basic knowledge of geometry, physics and technology. The game enhances their awareness of shape and volume and gives them a good sense of balance while improving manual dexterity.



### Stimulating creativity

Besides logical thinking, KAPLA stimulates children to think in a different way and to create constructions from their own imagination. By using their creativity children will discover their artistic talent. At the end of the project, each design can be used for discussion – with each creator explaining his/her creation.

## KAPLA : an educational tool

KAPLA encourages perseverance, patience and concentration, which are key elements to success at school. Children are made to work in a concentrated way if they want to build a good, solid construction and achieve the desired result.



**Concentration**



**Perseverance**



**Patience**



One may have to start over again when the construction collapses at an early stage. You cannot cheat with KAPLA - if your construction does not have a solid base, it will inevitably collapse! This demands perseverance and patience.

# KAPLA : an educational tool

## Cognitive development

During childhood a child goes through several phases of cognitive development. In each stage a child likes to play in a different manner and will develop different skills. Being a progressive game, KAPLA allows each child to play at his/her own level of difficulty. KAPLA grows with the child.



## Teamwork



KAPLA is an ideal game to play in a group. It stimulates teamwork and cooperation. Children will have to communicate with each other to decide on the subject of their project and work together while building their constructions. Each child will automatically find his/her place within the group, as a leader, assistant or coordinator.

## The origin of KAPLA



Born in The Netherlands, Tom van der Bruggen is the creator of KAPLA. Tom van der Bruggen studied the History of Art. He had always dreamt of building a castle. As he was passing the Tarn River in the south of France, he fell in love with an old ruined farm and he decided to turn the farm into the castle of his dreams, with little towers, fountains and a carriage entrance.

While making the scale drawings for it, he played around with wooden blocks to see what the structure would look like. He soon discovered that the blocks were not at all well adapted for building certain elements like floors, roofs and lintels.



Unsatisfied with the possibilities of these blocks Tom van der Bruggen invented a block, which is in fact a little plank based on the progressions of the uneven numbers 1:3:15. This unique ratio opens up a whole new way of building. With these identical blocks you can construct with the precision of artwork and the stability of stones. With KAPLA blocks children can now build and create the most wonderful creations - palaces, bridges, dragons or futuristic towers. You only have to use your imagination and start creating. Everything is possible with KAPLA blocks!

## To Contact us

### KAPLA France

98, avenue de la Garonne  
33440 Saint Louis de Montferrand  
France

**Tel. : 00 33 5 56 77 45 34**

**Fax : 00 33 5 56 77 47 11**

**[www.kapla.com](http://www.kapla.com)**

[kapla.uk@kapla.com](mailto:kapla.uk@kapla.com)

### Communication and Sales

Hélène Oros  
[heleneoros@kapla.com](mailto:heleneoros@kapla.com)

### Logistics and Orders

Audrey Raynal  
[audreyraynal@kapla.com](mailto:audreyraynal@kapla.com)

