

## Back to Back

### Aim

- To develop geometrical concepts and language
- To improve mathematical communication skills

### Equipment

- Multilink cubes or similar
- Pencils and paper

### Procedure

#### *Cubes*

Get students into groups of three. Students A and B in the group sit back to back and Student C sits beside them.

Student C makes a shape using a set number of multilink cubes (maybe 5 when they first do the activity, more when they have had some experience). Students A and B don't watch.

C then hands the shape to A and hands the same number of cubes, unassembled, to B.

A then has to give verbal instructions to B so that B can put his or her cubes together to make the same shape.

When A and B are happy that they have finished, they compare shapes.

The students then rotate and repeat. Reverse direction now and then so that B gives instructions to A instead. Over several rotations they should get gradually better.

#### *Drawings*

Later on, do the same thing with simple geometrical drawing made from straight lines and maybe circles.

### Tips

Demonstrate the activity with a group at the front of the classroom before starting so that students are clear how the activity works.