

Purple Village

Introduction	This activity encourages creativity and the use of active imagination as the children use their Purplinkers to form houses of different shapes to create town or village. The project teaches the importance of individual contributions to a group effort.
Goals	Develop prewriting hand strength and fine motor skills, creative thinking, imagination and cooperative play.
Before You Start	Each child and teacher should have their own Purplinker. You will also need crayons or markers, construction paper, scissors (if the children have been introduced to them previously), a roll of butcher's paper, craft glue and a copy of the nursery rhyme "There Was an Old Lady Who Lived In a Shoe".
Let's Begin	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Present the nursery rhyme and practice reciting the rhyme for those children who may not already know it.2. Discuss the shoe and how living in it made it a home. Discuss what homes are and why we need them.3. Have the children talk about what their homes look like on the outside. Have them pick their house out from the different styles on the house template.4. Form your Purplinker into a simple house shape and assist the children in forming their house shape.5. Have each child trace the shape of their Purplinker house, decorate, color and cut it out.6. Assist the children in gluing the houses to the roll of butcher paper to make town or Village. Roll the paper up and save it for the next exercise.
Furthermore	In the following exercises, have the children form other Purplinker houses. Add them to the village along with trees, autos, animals and road signs. (Street signs offer the opportunity to learn about shapes while using the Purplinker). The fun position of this exercise is watching the village grow into a town, then a city. You might decide to put the village away when the children are not working on it and display it at a special event like Grandparents' Day.