



As part of our class's exploration of Sukkot, the children decided to build a *sukkah* out of hollow blocks. The decision to build a *sukkah* in dramatic play became an exercise in compromise, mathematical problem solving, spatial reasoning and creative thinking.

Before building the structure, the children had to agree on the proper shape for the *sukkah*. They went back and forth between a triangle, square and rectangle, ultimately deciding on a rectangle because, *"then two of the sides will be extra long."* However, once the rectangle was built they realized that the structure blocked the door, and decided to reconfigure the blocks into a square. Once they had built the square two levels high, it became apparent that if they wanted space to add a roof, the *sukkah* would need to be taller. Since there were not enough hollow blocks in our classroom for adding a third level, the children came up with the idea to borrow blocks from another classroom. They counted in order to figure out how many they would need and decided to borrow *"7 squares and 3 rectangles."* Once the structure was complete, they decided to use large branches for the top in order to *"see the stars while we eat."*



***"We should build a huge sukkah out of hollow blocks!"***