A Naturalistic Way to Do ABA "Block Imitation" With Kids' Circuit Building Kits



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This activity is a collaboration with <u>Aspire Robotics</u>.

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I Already Have a Block Imitation Program, Why Should I Use This Activity?

- 1. It will help with generalization of the skill. We know that using different materials and activities helps promote generalization, so I wanted to make this free activity to make your generalization programming easier for you. I know you're busy, so here you go. ©
- 2. It takes advantage of natural reinforcement. The result of the child imitating your actions with building the circuit is that something cool happens when the circuit is complete, such as a spinner spinning or an LED lighting up. Since reinforcement is built right into the activity, it may capitalize on a child's natural motivation to learn.
- **3.** It lays a foundation for future science education. Even if you're not teaching about circuits specifically in this activity, giving a child experience with these concepts in a fun and relaxed way can help the child with learning the concepts in the future.

What Materials Do I Need For This Activity?

- 1. The instructions for the activity on the following pages.
- 2. A data sheet to track the student's progress.
- 3. A kids electronic circuit building kit. Below are some links to the kits I use. They aren't expensive, they are high-quality, and easy-to-use. I love these kits! You need **two** copies of any one these kits to do the "block imitation" activity. The teacher will use one, and the child will use one. I love using theses kits with students: they are absolutely worth buying! They would also be great for independent learning centers.

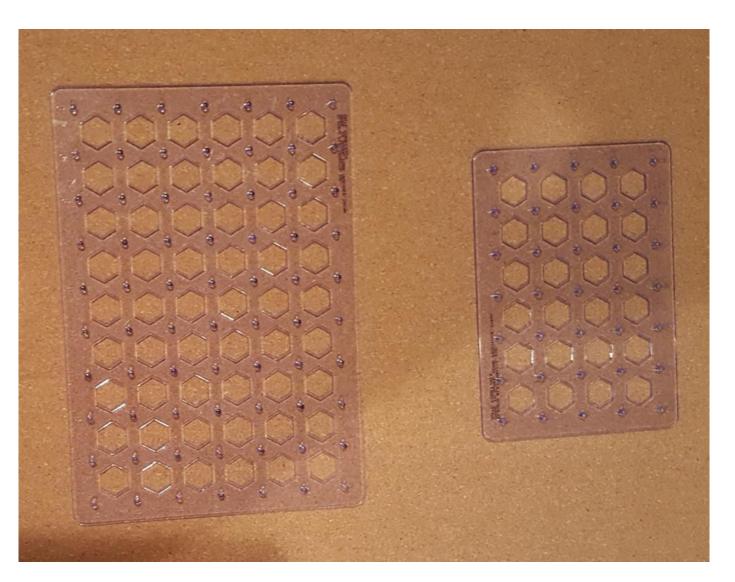
Note: instructors using this program should have familiarity with a "traditional" ABA block imitation activity, as well as how to use and fade prompts.

Snap Circuits Jr.
SC-100 Electronics
Discovery Kit

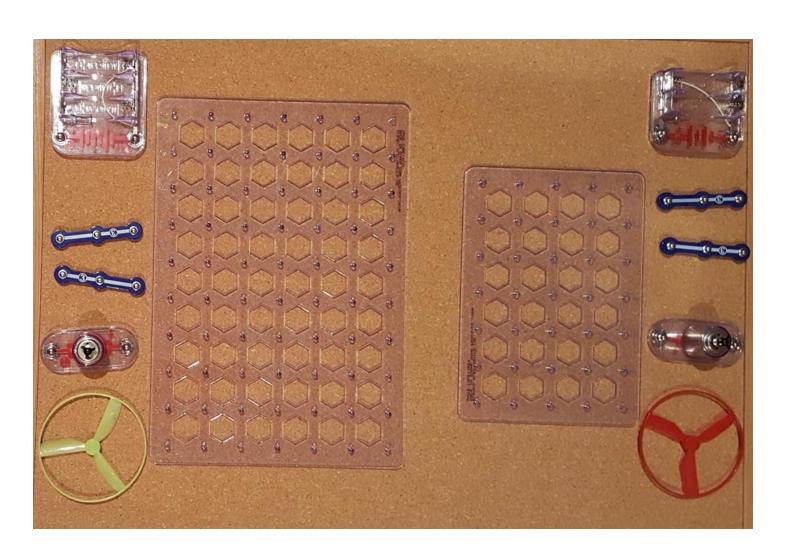
Snap Circuits
Beginner Electronic
Discovery Kit

Snap Circuits LED Fun Science Kit

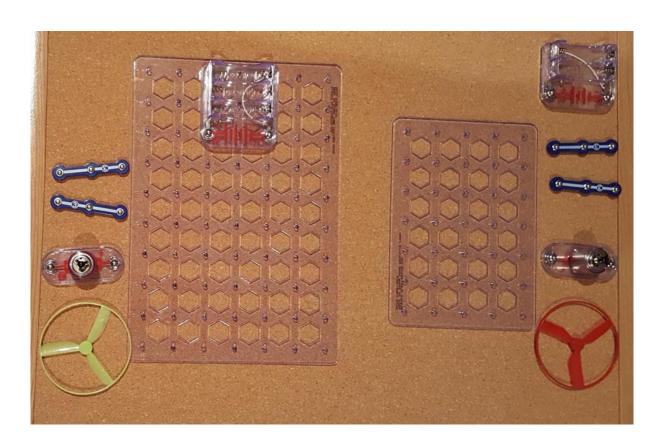
Step 1: Place two of the circuit boards side-by-side, one for you and one for the child.



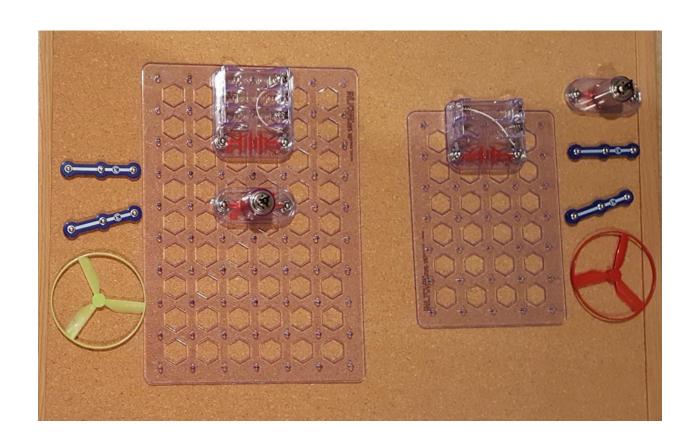
Step 2: Put out an identical set of materials for you and for the child.



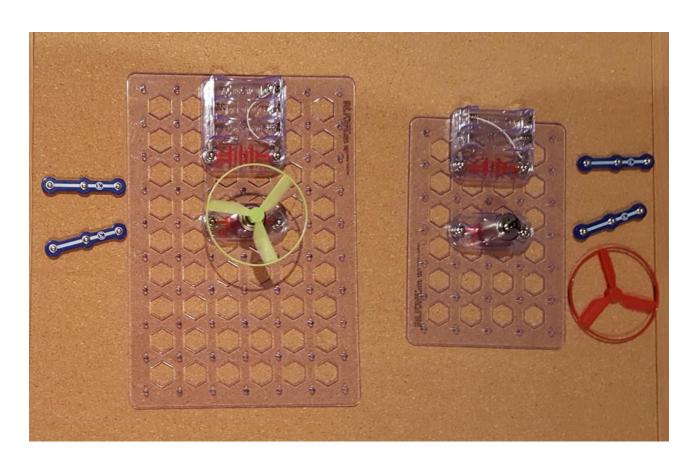
Step 3: Say, "do this" and snap the battery pack onto the board. If necessary, prompt the child to do the same thing on his or her board.



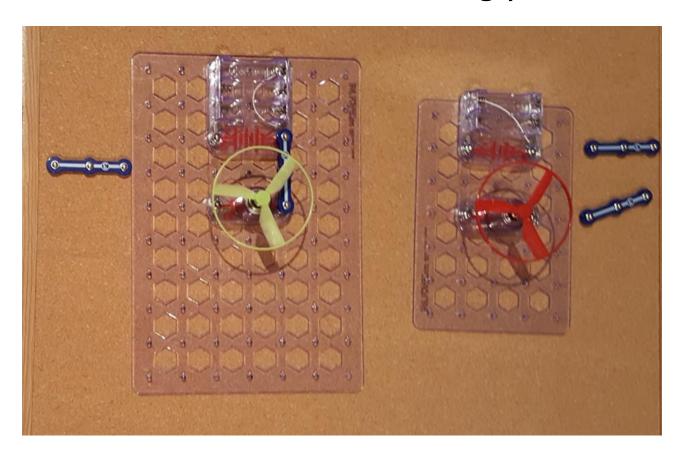
Step 4: Say, "do this" and snap the fan/spinner piece onto the board. If necessary, prompt the child to do the same thing on his or her board.



Step 5: Say, "do this" and place the fan/spinner on top of the motor. If necessary, prompt the child to do the same thing on his or her board.

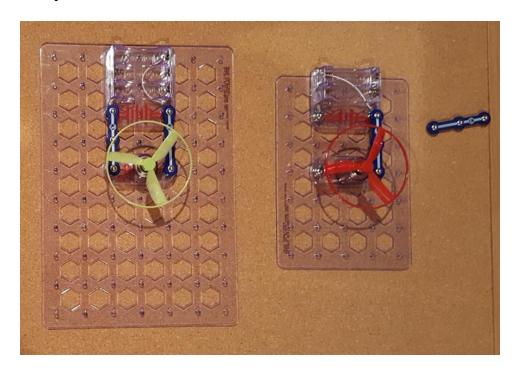


Step 6: Say, "do this" and snap a blue "wire" piece onto the board. If necessary, prompt the child to do the same thing on his or her board.



Step 7: Say, "do this" and snap a blue "wire" piece onto the board. If necessary, prompt the child to do the same thing on his or her board.

Praise/reinforce the child for imitating your action. At this point, the spinner should start spinning, and the activity is complete.

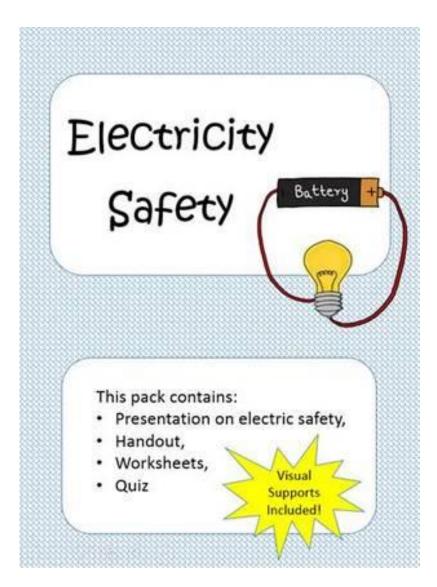


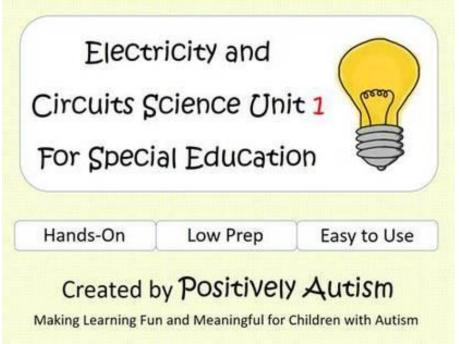
Step 8: Start over (either now or at a later time) and do the activity again, building different arrangements with the kit.





Other Science Activities You Might Like





Using Robot Battle TV Shows for Teaching or Homeschooling

Safety Information

Before doing any of the activities here, please thoroughly read and follow all safety instructions contained in the electronics kit you are using.

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