

# Maya Builds the Ultimate Block Tower

Grade 1

math

block-builders

Students will be able to add numbers within 20 using counting strategies and known facts.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Maya finds 2 rare finds. She finds 3 more. How many rare finds does Maya have?  $\_\_\_ + \_\_\_ = \_\_\_$

2. Maya stacks 4 special blocks. She stacks 1 more. How many blocks now?  $\_\_\_ + \_\_\_ = \_\_\_$

3. Maya loads 5 unique items onto her cart. She loads 4 more. How many unique items? Show your work.  $\_\_\_ + \_\_\_ = \_\_\_$

4. Maya finds 6 rare finds in the west wall. She finds 5 more in the east wall. How many rare finds in all?  $\_\_\_ + \_\_\_ = \_\_\_$

5. True or False: Maya stacks 7 special blocks. She stacks 6 more. Maya has 14 blocks in all. Circle: TRUE / FALSE. Show your work below.

6. Maya lifts 8 unique items onto the tower. Then she lifts 7 more unique items. How many unique items did Maya stack? Show every step.

7. Maya hides 9 hidden treasures on level one. She hides 9 more on level two. How many hidden treasures did Maya hide? Fill in the pattern:  $9 + 9 = \_\_\_$ . If she adds 1 more,  $9 + 10 = \_\_\_$ .

8. Maya reaches the top of her tower! She has 8 rare finds on shelf one and 9 unique items on shelf two. She also finds 3 hidden treasures at the very top. How many special items did Maya collect on her whole block-builders adventure? Show all your steps.

## Answer Key: Maya Builds the Ultimate Block Tower

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After Q6, ask students to share the two numbers Maya stacked — this reinforces the commutative property using the block-tower story context children have already invested in.

1. Maya finds 2 rare finds. She finds 3 more. How many rare finds does Maya have?  $\_\_ + \_\_ = \_\_$

**Answer: 2 rare finds + 3 rare finds = 5 rare finds**

2. Maya stacks 4 special blocks. She stacks 1 more. How many blocks now?  $\_\_ + \_\_ = \_\_$

**Answer: 4 special blocks + 1 special block = 5 special blocks**

3. Maya loads 5 unique items onto her cart. She loads 4 more. How many unique items? Show your work.  $\_\_ + \_\_ = \_\_$

**Answer: 5 unique items + 4 unique items = 9 unique items**

4. Maya finds 6 rare finds in the west wall. She finds 5 more in the east wall. How many rare finds in all?  $\_\_ + \_\_ = \_\_$

**Answer: 6 rare finds + 5 rare finds = 11 rare finds**

5. True or False: Maya stacks 7 special blocks. She stacks 6 more. Maya has 14 blocks in all. Circle: TRUE / FALSE. Show your work below.

**Answer: 7 special blocks + 6 special blocks = 13 special blocks. 13 does not equal 14. Answer: FALSE**

6. Maya lifts 8 unique items onto the tower. Then she lifts 7 more unique items. How many unique items did Maya stack? Show every step.

**Answer: Step 1: Start at 8. Step 2: Count on 7 more — 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15. Step 3: 8 unique items + 7 unique items = 15 unique items**

7. Maya hides 9 hidden treasures on level one. She hides 9 more on level two. How many hidden treasures did Maya hide? Fill in the pattern:  $9 + 9 = \_\_$ . If she adds 1 more,  $9 + 10 = \_\_$ .

**Answer: 9 hidden treasures + 9 hidden treasures = 18 hidden treasures. Then 9 + 10: 18 + 1 more = 19 hidden treasures.**

8. Maya reaches the top of her tower! She has 8 rare finds on shelf one and 9 unique items on shelf two. She also finds 3 hidden treasures at the very top. How many special items did Maya collect on her whole block-builders adventure? Show all your steps.

**Answer: Step 1: 8 rare finds + 9 unique items. Start at 9, count on 8 — 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17. That gives 17. Step 2: 17 + 3 hidden treasures. 17 + 3 = 20. Maya collected 20 special items and finished her tower!**