

## LEGO® Semaphore Flag Activity

### National Museum of the American Sailor Activity

Semaphore is a very important form of visual communication that is often used by sailors to communicate over long distances. The distance might be from one ship to another or even as far from ship to shore. A sailor will hold a flag in each hand and have their arms placed in a specific, unique position to represent a number or letter in the alphabet. Imagine if the sailors didn't have these flags to communicate; that would lead to a lot of miscommunication!



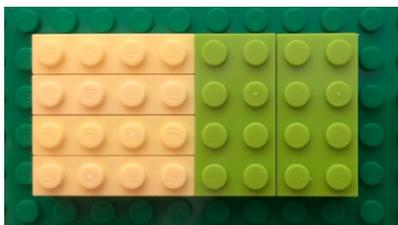
#### Supplies

- LEGO® or other building blocks
- Pencil
- Notebook

#### Instructions

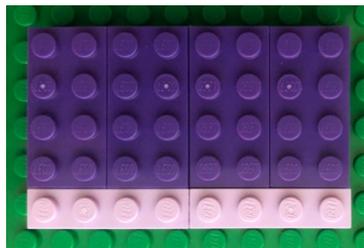
Using a flat base, use any LEGO® or similar building blocks to create your own set of semaphore flags to communicate with your friends or family. Will you create flags for each letter of the alphabet and use them to spell out messages like the sailors in the U.S. Navy? Or perhaps you'll create one flag to represent a specific phrase?

Whichever option you choose, make sure you use a pencil and notebook to write down what each flag represents. You don't want to accidentally send the wrong message! Share your idea with your friends or family so you all can communicate together.



*Check out our Museum Technician's LEGO® semaphore alphabet. The top creation represents the letter "H" while the bottom is for the letter "I."*

*"Hi" to all of our followers!*



*Here is another example. If NMAS friends see this symbol, then that means it's time to eat! Any guesses what the symbol might be?*

Most importantly, don't forget to share it with us at the National Museum of the American Sailor! Take a photograph of your message and tag us on social media: [www.facebook.com/nationalmuseumoftheamericansailor](https://www.facebook.com/nationalmuseumoftheamericansailor) or [@ntlmuseumamericansailor](https://www.instagram.com/ntlmuseumamericansailor)

