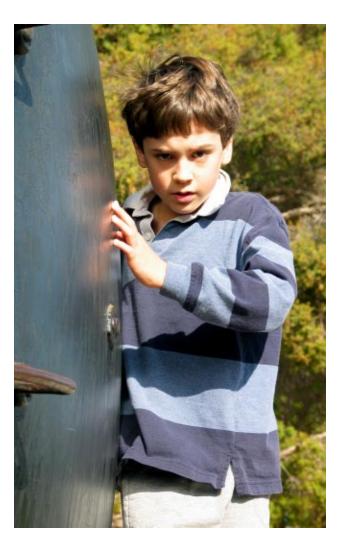
Lego[®] Lab R.A.T.S. Application

Abe Karplus 5 February 2005

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Text and designs by Abraham Karplus (age 8) Photos and typing by Kevin Karplus (age 50) Layout a joint effort.





LEGO® is my favorite toy. I like to invent, and LEGO® really helps me invent.

Whenever my friend Nick comes over, we play with Abe's Fleet (and Nick's warrior ships). All the vehicles in this brochure are of my own design. Me and my Dad did not photograph Nick's ships.

I have two Knights' Kingdom sets; one is Border Ambush, the other is the Citadel. Knights' Kingdom cards should be sold separately—I don't mean in booster packs, but so that you can choose which cards you need for your collection.

The problem with Border Ambush is that the catapult and pit trap don't function all that well, because you've been concentrating too much on the looks of things and not on how they work. The catapult missed a lot and broke off parts of the set when it missed. The pit trap didn't open that well, and the boulder didn't always knock the Shadow Knight down, thus the trapdoor did not have enough weight on it to open.

I think that with my dedication (I bought Border Ambush with my own money) and my creativity (see photos), I would be an excellent addition to the LEGO[®] Lab R.A.T.S.





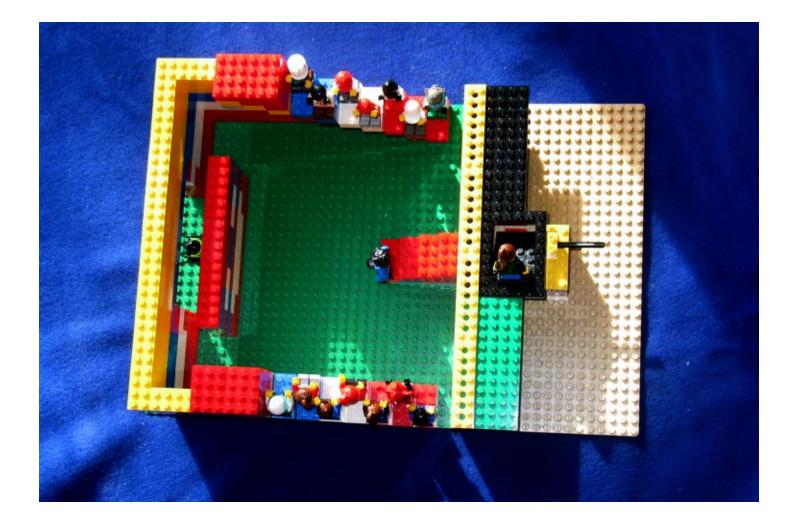
Arena Theater

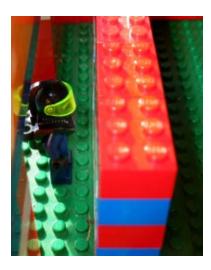
This theater has both an arena and a stage, but it uses the arena as a stage and thus only does plays.

I used two baseplates, and the wall of the stage holds them together. There are stairs down from the stage to the arena. The audience sits on the sides of the arena on a set of seat-stairs.

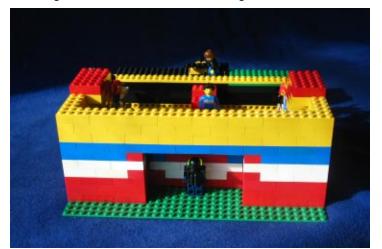
The trapdoor on the small stage opens by means of a rod, like how the pit trap in Border Ambush works. In fact, I used the very same trap door. I used two square bricks to keep the trapdoor from opening all the way. The stage entrance onto the arena is blocked by a wall that shuts out the light.

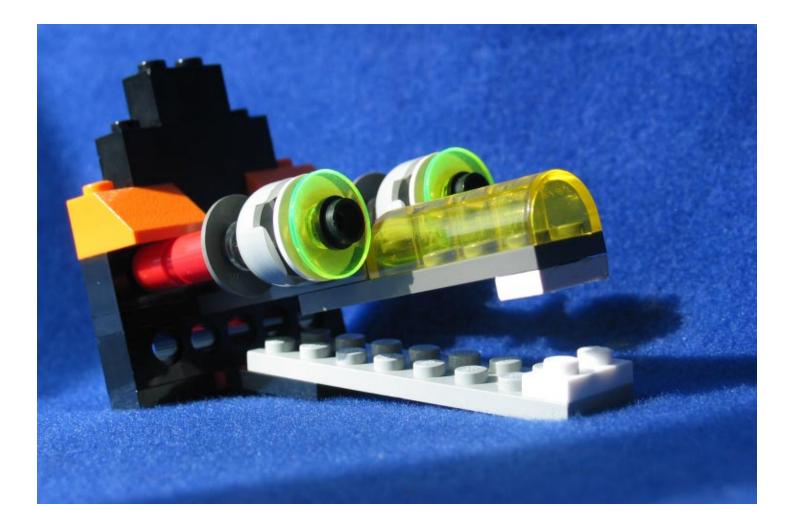






I think I'll have to order another community worker set, because this theater took up all my spare minifigures. I had to borrow some pant droids from the Droid Transport, because I ran out of pants.





Monster Face

The monster's name is Drubin. He's two-thirds monster and one-third dragon. He's a firebreathing water dragon.

Drubin has fireflies in his nose, which he uses as a lantern to help him catch shrimp, which are his favorite food.

The jaw is hinged allowing him to open his mouth to a bit more than a right angle. You can attach a tongue to the beam used to separate the upper and lower jaws. The two teeth prevent the mouth from completely closing—which would make it unopenable.

Drubin has only a head, because I ran out of rectangles.



Abe's Fleet



The villains have a magical key, which Abe's Fleet is trying to get. The fleet is lead by Abe, who is driving his Tech. Second in command is Abe's clone, who is riding on the motortrike plus carrier. The Droid Transport carries the droids and their controller, but the two droid mechanics ride on the Troop Transport Vehicle, along with the doctors and motorbike maintenance man. The Support Vehicle includes kitchen and bathroom, and the Cargo Truck carries supplies etc.

Abe's Fleet works in cooperation with Nick's warrior ship (not shown) and provides support for his fighters.

All the vehicles are open, allowing me to take out the people and put them in other vehicles as they move around.



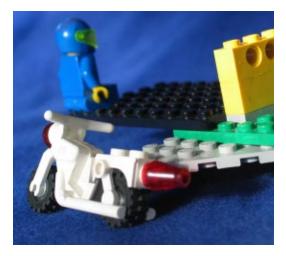
Abe's Tech

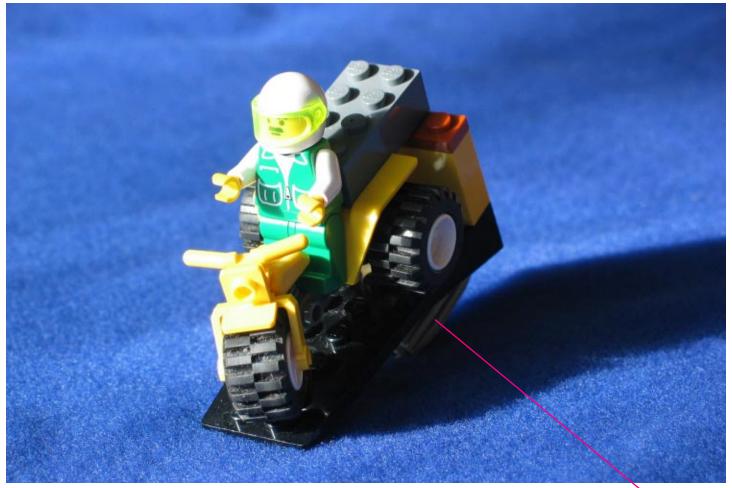
This is the vehicle Abe rides in. It controls all the tech stuff in the whole fleet, and it also includes a place for Nick's motorbiking helmet. The Tech is a rugged vehicle.



Troop Transport

This vehicle carries the motorbike maintenance man, Nick's motorbike, the two red-haired doctors, the two droid mechanics, Nick's formal suit, and the driver. The motorbike maintenance man only maintains Nick's motorbike, as Abe's clone maintains his own.





Abe's clone's

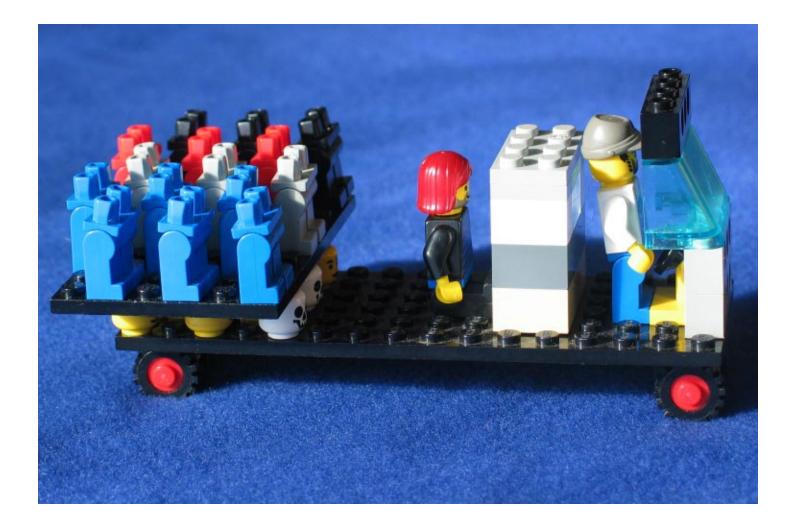
jet engine

motortrike + carrier

Abe's clone normally flies the carrier with the motortrike on it. When he needs to go slower than 70 m.p.h., he takes the motortrike out of the carrier and rides it independently.

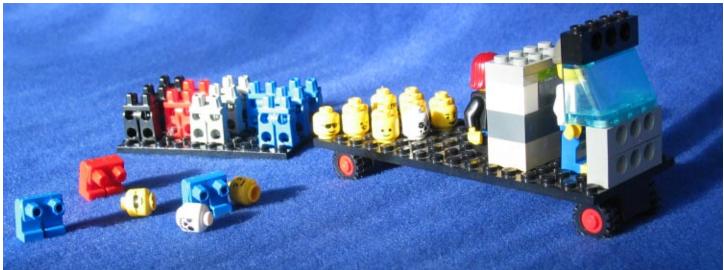


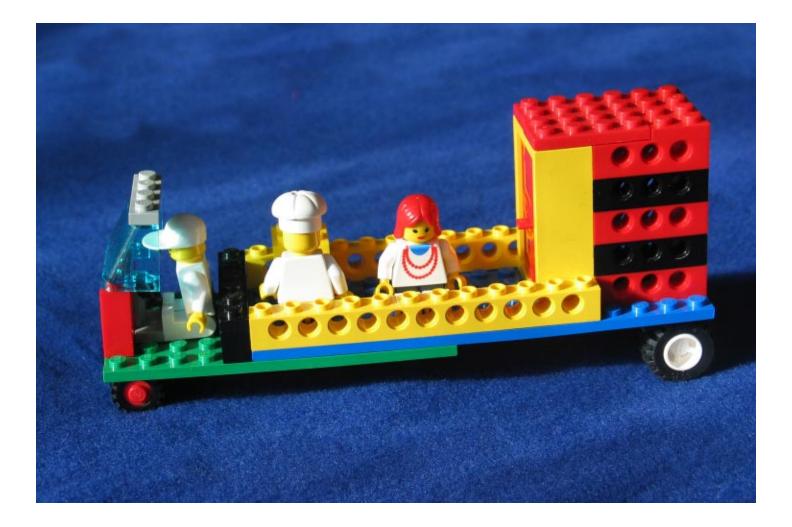
Although he is second in command, he does not even have a name, and thus everyone calls him "Abe's clone".



Droid Transport

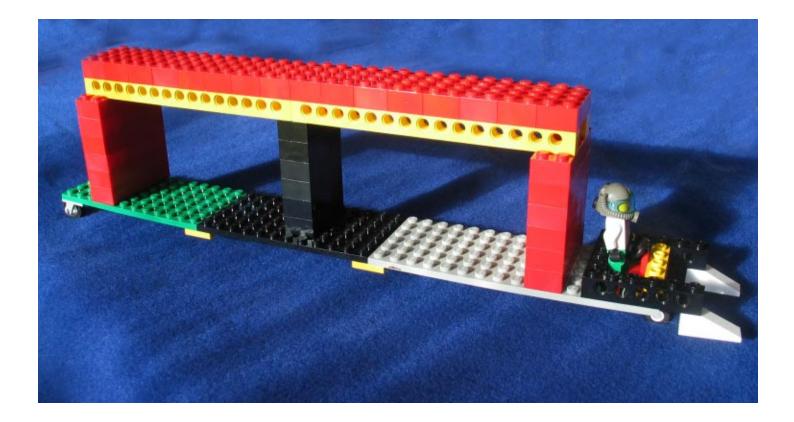
The Droid Transport vehicle carries two types of droids (head droids and pant droids), a droid controller, and a driver.





Support Vehicle

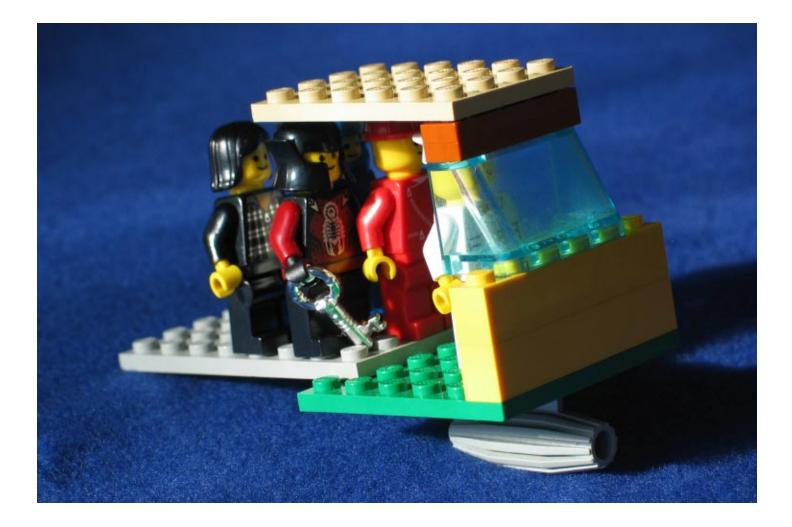
The Support Vehicle includes the kitchen and bathroom. Abe's wife Michelle is the chef and ship mechanic. The other person here (aside from the driver) is Violet, Nick's wife and the nurse.



Cargo Truck

The Cargo Truck can ship cargo anywhere.

- The truck can carry heavy loads, cargo, broken vehicles, and sleeping people.
- If the roof is removed, it is a flatbed trailer, which can carry really big things.
- It is really quite a sturdy ship.



Villains' Ship

The villains made this ship out of stolen parts. It is quite run down. The villain "Guardian" is holding the magical key. The one wearing white is the driver/servant. The one wearing red is the boss. The one wearing black is the planner, and the one wearing blue (hidden in back) executes the plans.