21253 The Animal Sanctuary
Adapted by John Le and tested by Jolene Nemeth

LEGO® Minecraft® The Animal Sanctuary (21253) is a versatile brick-building gift idea for gamers and kids. The toy includes 6 Minecraft animals for girls and boys aged 7+ to care for, and the first appearance of LEGO Minecraft character Efe for gaming-action role play. This plains biome animal set contains 3 areas: a fenced-in play-space with a gate and a room housing a chest full of animal food, including a bone, a carrot, and wheat; a picnic area with a table beneath a tree; and a carpet where tired animals can rest. As well as the animal caretaker, Efe, the set's baby mobs include a Minecraft cat, magenta sheep, wolf, rabbit, cow… and even a Minecraft Baby Zombie. This LEGO Minecraft building set for kids is a video game toy gift idea for kids and animal lovers.

Minecraft® characters mobs – The set's baby animals include Minecraft cat, sheep, wolf, rabbit, and cow figures and even a Baby Zombie, plus the first appearance of LEGO® Minecraft character Efe

Animal-care and action toy – This plains biome LEGO® set has 3 sections: a fenced-in play-space with an animal-feeding room, an outdoor picnic area, and a carpet where tired animals can rest.

Accessories for independent play – A LEGO® Minecraft® toy treasure chest contains a variety of food items, including a bone, a carrot, and wheat, to encourage kids to care for the animals.

Minecraft® gift for gamers – The set has 206 pieces and the main structure measures over 3.5 in. (8 cm) high, 5.5 in. (14 cm) wide, and 2.5 in. (6 cm) deep.

The front of the box shows the farm in the background with a cow in a pen, and a rabbit nibbling on a carrot! To the right is a pink tree. A cat is jumping up the tree! There is a pink sheep there too watching the cat! Oh wait there is a baby zombie under the tree! Don't worry though because Efe has an axe in her hand and a wolf by her side!

The back of the box shows the farm in the back with a sheep roaming around the pen. Efe has a carrot in her hand feeding the rabbit. All the other animals are fed too! The cow has wheat, the wolf has bone, and the cat has a fish! There are 3 smaller pictures that show Efe trying to get the cat out of the tree with a fish, Efe feeding the rabbit with a carrot below the tree, and all the animals bunched up in the pen together!

The top of the box shows all the characters the set comes with. It comes with a cat, sheep, wolf, rabbit, cow, baby zombie, and Efe.

The build is 206 pieces in total and is for ages 7+.

Bag 1 includes the pieces for Efe, some animals, a picnic table, and the tree!

Bag 2 includes the pieces for the zombie, some animals, and the barn.

Welcome to text-based instructions from Bricks for the Blind. Before you start building, here are some terms we'll be using:
- In Front of/Front: towards you.
- Behind/Back: away from you.

- Up: towards the ceiling.
- Down: towards the floor.
- Stud: the bump on a LEGO brick. Example: A 2x1 brick has two studs on it.
- Vertically: with the longest side going from front to back
- Horizontally: with the longest side going from left to right.
- Upright: pointing up towards the ceiling.
- Standing upright: The piece is perpendicular to the ground, like a wall.
- Lying flat: The piece is parallel to the ground, like a piece of toast which fell off the table.
- That one/ppp: previously placed piece.
- Plate: piece with studs.
- Tile: smooth piece without studs (unless otherwise specified)
- A jumper plate is a 1x2 plate with a single stud on top, or a 1x3 plate with only two studs on top.
- "Anti-stud" is a term for the portion of a LEGO piece which accepts studs, like the bottom of a plate or brick.
- Symmetrically: a mirror image. Example: If you place a 2x1 brick with technic connector on the front wall at the right, connector to the front, and then place another such piece symmetrically on the back wall, at the right, the technic connector of the second piece should point to the back, since it will be placed symmetrically.
- Centered-vertically: even amount of space in front of and behind piece
- Centered-horizontally: even amount of space left and right of piece.
- Row: studs lined up horizontally (left to right/side to side).
- Column: studs lined up upright or vertically (top to bottom/back to front).

For builders with low vision, or a sighted building partner may want to follow along with the printed visual instructions that come with each kit, or PDF versions are always online at LEGO.com for each set: (https://www.lego.com/en-us/service/buildinginstructions/21253) As low vision users may benefit from viewing the instructions on a personal device where they can zoom in on content and use assistive technologies to enhance the visuals.

Sorting the pieces:

To begin a successful build, it helps to sort the pieces into groups, bags, or small containers. Have a friend or family member do this in advance following the instructions below. You will see that the pieces should be sorted according to the building steps in the kit. Doing this in advance makes locating the pieces for each step easier. See below on how to sort the pieces to correspond to the steps in this set. Number the containers using letters A-Z, numbers, or meaningful names. The parts will be sorted into one or a small number of steps in the instructions. Example: Steps 1-3 means collect all the parts used in steps 1,2 and 3, and put them in one container.

This LEGO set comes with 2 bags labeled 1 and 2, 2 sets of instructions, and some loose pieces. Sort the pieces into groups or piles as described below. Note that where there are multiple colors of the same brick in a step, the colors will be split into 2 groups to make telling the difference easier for the builder! LEGO includes a few spare parts in case you lose something. Set these into their own group away from the rest, in case you need them later.

Bag 1 - Efe Minifigure, Animals, Picnic Table, and Tree
Group 1 - Pages 4-5.

Group 2 - Page 6 and 1 dark tan 1x1 plate from Page 7.
Group 3 - Rest of Page 7.
Group 4 - Page 8 and 2 transparent light blue 1x1 plates from page 9.
Group 5 - Rest of Page 9 and Steps 1-2.
Group 6 - Steps 3-15.
Group 7 - Steps 16-17.

Bag 2 - Zombie, Animals, and Barn
Group 8 - Page 22 and 1 brown 1x1 plate from step 23.
Group 9 - Rest of Page 23.
Group 10 - Pages 24.
Group 11 - Steps 18-23.
Group 12 - Steps 24-28.
Group 13 - Steps 29-35.
Group 14 - Steps 36-41.
Group 15 - Steps 42-46

Let's get to building!

Building Instructions (Bag 1, Book 1):

Group 1 - Efe Minifigure and Sheep

Sub-build 1. Locate 1 brown pair of legs, 1 torso with a light blue long-sleeve v-neck, head printed with purple hair, eyes, and red lips, 1 light grey axe, and 1 yellow plant stem. Assemble your minifigure then put the axe in her hand and the plant stem in the other. This is wheat to feed the animals!

1-2. Locate 1 black 2x2 round plate and 2 tan 1x2 bricks with a groove. Place the round plate on the table. Then vertically place the bricks on top so the side with the groove faces outwards.

3-4. Locate 1 magenta 1x2 plate and 1 magenta 1x2 plate connected to an L-shaped sheep head printed with white fur, pink nose, and black eyes. Horizontally place the plate on the back row. Then horizontally place the 1x2 plate part of the sheep head in front so the head faces the front! The head should overhang in the front! Put these aside while we build a wolf!

Group 2 - Wolf

1-2. Locate 1 black 2x2 round plate and 2 light grey 1x2 bricks with a groove. Place the round plate on the table. Then vertically place the bricks on top so the side with the groove faces outwards.

3-4. Locate 1 light grey 1x2 plate with a clip, 1 teal 1x2 plate, and 1 light grey 1x2 tile. Horizontally place the 1x2 plate with a clip on the back row so the clip faces the back. Horizontally place the 1x2 plate on the front row. Then horizontally place the tile on the back row.

5. Locate 1 light grey bar holder with a bar and 1 light grey 1x2 plate connected to an L-shaped wolf head printed with a nose, 2 ears, and black eyes. Horizontally place the 1x2 plate part of the head on the front row so the head faces the front. Then attach the bar to the back-facing clip. Put your wolf aside while we build a cat!

You will have an extra dark tan 1x1 plate, save this for later.

Group 3. Cat

1. Locate 1 black 1x2 rounded plate and place it vertically in front of you.

2. Locate 1 dark tan 1x1 plate from group 2 and place it on the back stud. Now locate 1 white 1x1 plate and place it in front.

3. Locate 1 white 1x1 rounded plate with a bar, and 1 dark tan 1x1 plate connected to a cat face printed with ears, mouth, and teal eyes. Place the 1x1 rounded plate on the back stud so the bar faces slightly to the back right. Then place the 1x1 plate part of the cat's face in the front so the face faces the front.

4. Locate 1 white 1x2 tile. Vertically place it on the 2 studs.

5. Locate 1 dark brown 1x2 plate with a clip. Attach the clip to the bar on the back of the cat so it is facing slightly to the back right.

Group 4 - Food Chest

1. Locate 1 nougat 2x4 chest bottom and 1 nougat 2x4 chest top. Horizontally place the chest bottom on your table so the side with a lower edge is facing the back. Horizontally attach the chest top to the clips on the back edge of the chest.

2. Locate 1 yellowish-green fish, 1 white bone, 1 nougat 1x2 rounded tile, 1 green stem, and 1 carrot. Insert the stem into the carrot. Now place everything into the chest and close it. It might not close all the way but that is okay! Put it away now and save it for later.

You will have 2 extra transparent light blue 1x1 plates. Save this for later.

Group 5 - Torches and Picnic Table

Sub-build 2. Locate 2 dark brown telescope bars and 2 transparent white 1x1 plates. Place the plates on top of the bars. Then locate 2 transparent light blue 1x1 plates from group 4. Place them on top of the previously placed plates. Put these torches aside while we build the tree!

1. Locate 1 green 6x8 plate and 1 dark green 2x2 tile with a stud. Place the plate horizontally in front of you. Then place the tile in the back left corner so there is no overhang.

2. Locate 1 green plant with 3 stems and 3 light pink 1x1 round flower plates. Insert the flower plates into each of the stems. Then place the plant on top of the previously placed tile.

Group 6 - Picnic Table and Tree

3. Locate 2 black 2x2 round plates and 2 teal 2x2 tiles with a stud. Place the tiles on each of the plates. Now place 1 on the 2 rightmost 2 columns so it is centered in the front and back. Then leave 2 columns to the left free, then place another so it is also centered in the front and back.

4. Locate 1 green 2x4 plate. Vertically place it in the front left corner so it overhangs 2 rows to the front.

5. Locate 1 green 6x8 plate. Horizontally place it underneath the overhang so the left and right sides line up with the previously placed 6x8 plate.

6. Locate 2 white 1x4 bricks. Vertically place 1 in front of the left column of the teal 2x2 tile with a stud that was placed on the right 2 columns. Then vertically place 1 in front of the right column of the teal 2x2 tile with a stud that was placed to the left.

7. Locate 1 white 4x6 plate. Horizontally place it on top of the previously placed 1x4 bricks so it is centered. This is a table!

8.1. Let's build a chair! Locate 1 black 2x2 round plate and place it in front of you.

8.2. Locate 1 white 1x2 plate and 1 white 1x2 plate with 2x2 side studs. Horizontally place the 1x2 plate on the front row. Then horizontally place the 1x2 plate with side studs on the back row so the side studs face the back.

8.3. Locate 1 white 2x2 plate with 2 studs. Make sure the side studs are above the plate. Place it on top of the previously placed plates so the 2 studs are in the front.

8.4. Locate 1 teal 2x2 tile with a stud. Place it upright on the back-facing side studs.

8.5. Now place your chair on the 2 rows in front of the previously placed 4x6 plate so it is centered and the 2x2 tile with a stud side is facing the front.

9. Locate 1 white 2x2 brick and 1 black 1x1 brick. Place the 2x2 brick on the table. Then place the 1x1 brick on top in the back left corner.

10. Locate 1 white 2x2 corner brick. Place it on top of the 2x2 brick so there is no overhang.

11. Locate 3 white 2x2 bricks. Stack them on top of each other on top of the previously placed bricks.

12. Locate 2 black 1x2 plates with 2x2 side studs. The side studs on these plates are below the plate part. Horizontally place them on the front and back rows.

13. Locate 2 black 1x2 plates with 2x2 side studs. The side studs on these plates are below the plate part. Vertically place them on the left and right columns.

14. Locate 2 pink 2x4 bricks. Horizontally place them upright on the front and back side studs so they are centered.

15. Locate 2 pink 2x4 bricks. Vertically place them upright on the left and right side studs so they are centered.

Group 7 - Tree

16. Locate 1 pink 2x4 brick and 1 pink 2x2 brick. Vertically place the 2x4 brick on top so it is centered. Then place the 2x2 brick on top so it is also centered.

17.1. Now bring back your build so it is vertical and the plant is in the back left corner. Now place your tree on the front left corner. Put this build aside now.

17.2. Now locate 1 of your torches that you put aside! Place it on the 2nd column from the left and 2nd row from the back of the 4x6 plate!

Building Instructions (Bag 2, Book 1):

Group 8 - Zombie

Sub-build 3. Locate 1 small light blue pair of legs connected to a body and 1 green zombie head. Place the head on top of the body. Ahh, it's a baby zombie! Run!

You will have an extra brown 1x1 plate, save it for later.

Group 9 - Cow

1-2. Let's build a cow now. Locate 1 black 2x2 round plate and 2 brown 1x2 bricks with a groove. Place the round plate on the table. Then vertically place the bricks on top so the side with the groove faces outwards.

3. Locate 1 white 1x1 plate and place it in the back left corner. Now locate 1 brown 1x1 plate from group 8 and place it in the back right corner.

4. Locate 1 brown 1x2 plate connected to an L-shaped cow head printed with a pink nose, black and white eyes, and a greyish-white spot on his face. With the 1x2 plate in the back, horizontally place it on the front row so the face overhangs to the front. Put this aside while we build a rabbit!

Group 10 - Rabbit and Floor

1. Locate 1 dark tan 1x2 rounded plate and 1 tan 1x1 plate. Vertically place the rounded plate in front of you. Then place the plate on the back stud.

2. Locate 1 tan 1x1 round plate. Place it on the front stud.

3. Locate 1 tan 1x1 slope tile connected to a rabbit head with 2 ears, brown eyes, and a pink nose. Vertically place it on top of the previously placed plates so the ears are in the front.

Let's build a floor for your animals to stand on!

1. Locate 1 white 4x4 plate and place it in front of you.

2. Locate 2 purple 2x2 tiles and 2 light purple 2x2 tiles with a stud. Place the tiles in the back left and front right corners. Then place the tiles with a stud in the front left and back right corners. Make sure there is no overhang.

Group 11 - Barn

18. Locate 1 green 4x10 plate and 1 white 2x2 plate. Horizontally place the 4x10 plate in front of you. Then place the 2x2 plate in the back right corner of the plate.

19. Locate 2 white 2x2 bricks. Place them on top of each other on top of the previously placed 2x2 plate.

20. Locate 1 dark green 2x4 tile with 2 studs. Vertically place it to the left of the previously placed bricks.

21. Locate 2 dark green 2x4 tiles with 2 studs and 1 green 2x4 plate. Horizontally place 1 tile on the back 2 rows to the left of the previously placed tile. Now vertically place the plate in front of the previously placed tile so it sits in front of the left 2 rows of it and overhangs 2 rows to the front. Then vertically place 1 tile in the front right corner so it overhangs 2 rows to the front.

22. Locate 1 green 4x10 plate. Horizontally place it underneath the overhang so the left and right sides line up with the previous 4x10 plate.

23. Locate 5 teal 1x1 bricks and 5 dark green 1x1 round plates with open studs. Place each plate on top of each of the bricks so you have 5 identical parts. Now place 3 to the left of the bricks stacked in the back right corner so they sit on top of the studs of the 2x4 tiles. Then place 2 in front of the bricks stacked in the back right corner so they sit on top of the studs of the 2x4 tiles.

Group 12 - Barn

24. Locate 1 magenta 2x4 plate and 1 white 2x2 brick. Horizontally place the plate in the back left corner so it overhangs 2 columns to the left. Then place the brick on the right 2 columns of the previously placed plate.

25. Locate 1 magenta 2x4 plate, 1 white 2x2 brick, and 1 white 2x2 tile with a stud. Leave 2 rows free in front of the previously placed plate, then horizontally place the plate so it overhangs 2 columns to the left. Then place the brick on the right 2 columns of this plate. Then place the 2x2 tile on top.

26. Locate 1 white 2x2 plate, 1 black 1x1 brick with a clip, 1 white 2x2 corner brick, and 1 white 2x2 tile with a stud. Place the 2x2 plate in the front right corner. Place the 1x1 brick with a clip on the front left stud of the previously placed plate so the clip faces the left. Then place the corner brick on top of the 2x2 plate to surround the 1x1 brick so it represents the braille letter D. Then place the tile on top of the previously placed bricks.

27.1. Locate 1 white 2x2 plate, 1 black 1x1 brick with a clip, 1 white 2x2 corner brick, and 1 white 2x2 tile with a stud. Repeat step 26 symmetrically for the front left corner of the 4x10 plate.

27.2. Locate 1 of the torches that you put aside! Place it on top of the 2x2 plate with a stud that you previously placed!

28. Locate 2 teal 1x2 tiles and 2 teal 1x2 plates with a bar. Place the tiles on top of the plates so there are no exposed studs. Now vertically attach the bars upright to the clips on the left and right sides of the previous steps to make a gate!

Group 13 - Barn

29. Locate 1 black 2x2 round plate, 1 black 2x2 plate, 2 black 1x2 tiles with 3 walls, and 2 transparent blue 1x1 round plates. Place the 2x2 round plate on the table. Then place the 2x2 plate on top. Then horizontally place the tiles on top so they make a box. Then place the 1x1 round plates into the box to make a water bowl for the animals! Now place the build on the leftmost column in front of the 2x2 brick in the back left corner.

30. Locate 1 teal 1x6 tile and 1 teal 1x4 tile. Horizontally place the 1x6 tile on the back row on top of the round plates so it is centered on them. Then vertically place the 1x4 tile on the rightmost column on top of the round plates so it is also centered on them.

31. Locate 1 black 1x1 brick and 1 white 2x2 corner brick. Place the 1x1 brick in the back left corner on top of the 2x2 brick. Then place the corner brick on top of the 2x2 brick so it surrounds the 1x1 brick and represents the braille letter J.

32. Locate 1 black 1x1 brick and 1 white 2x2 corner brick. Place the 1x1 brick in the front left corner of the 2x2 brick that is in the back right corner. Then place the corner brick on top of the 2x2 brick so it surrounds the 1x1 brick and represents the braille letter D.

33. Locate 1 white 2x2 brick. Place it on top of the corner brick and 1x1 brick that are in the back left corner.

34. Locate 2 white 2x2 bricks. Place 1 on top of the previously placed brick. Then place 1 in the back right corner.

35. Locate 1 white 2x10 plate and 2 white 2x2 plates. Horizontally place the 2x10 plate on top of the pillars on the back row so it is centered. Then stack the 2 plates on top of the 2x10 plate on the 2 leftmost columns.

Group 14 - Barn

36. Locate 1 magenta 1x8 plate. Vertically place it underneath the right column of the overhang on the left side of the build so it lines up with the front row of the 4x10 plate.

37. Locate 1 magenta 6x8 plate. Vertically place it underneath the overhang on the left side of the build so it is aligned at the front.

38. Locate 2 magenta 2x2 tiles and 1 white 2x2 plate. Place the 2 tiles on the back 2 rows next to the 2x4 plate that is to the right. Then place the 2x2 plate to the left so it overhangs to the left.

39. Locate 1 magenta 1x8 plate. Vertically place it underneath the right column of the overhang on the left side of the build so it is aligned at the front.

40. Let's make a pillar. Locate 4 white 2x2 bricks, 1 white 2x2 corner brick, 1 black 1x1 brick, and 1 white 2x2 plate. Place two 2x2 bricks together. Then place the 1x1 brick on the back right stud. Then place the corner brick so it surrounds the 1x1 brick and represents the braille letter H. Then stack 2 bricks on top then place the plate on top of the bricks. Now place the pillar on the back left corner of the build.

41. Locate 1 white 2x2 plate, 1 white 2x2 corner brick, 1 white 2x2 tile with a stud, and 1 black 1x1 brick. Leave 2 rows free in front of the pillar then place the 2x2 plate so it sits on the 2 leftmost columns. Place

the 1x1 brick on the front left stud of this plate. Then place the corner brick so it surrounds the 1x1 brick and represents the braille letter D. Then place the tile with a stud on top of the previously placed bricks.

Group 15 - Barn

42. Locate 1 purple 4x6 plate, 1 purple 2x4 plate, and 4 purple 2x2 tiles. Horizontally place the 4x6 plate on the back right corner so it overhangs 2 rows to the front. Now vertically place the 2x4 plate on top of the 4x6 plate on the 2 leftmost columns. Then cover the rest of the 4x6 plate with the 2x2 tiles.

43. Locate 1 purple 4x6 plate and 5 purple 2x2 tiles. Horizontally place the 4x6 plate on top of the previously placed 2x4 plate so it only overhangs to the front. Now place the tiles on top of the 4x6 plate so there is an exposed 2x2 set of studs in the back left corner.

44. Locate 1 white 2x10 plate. Horizontally place it in the back left corner of the build so the 2 leftmost columns of the 2x10 plate sits on the pillar in the back left corner. The 2 rightmost columns of the 2x10 plate should sit on the back left corner of the purple 4x6 plate you previously placed.

45. Locate 8 teal 1x1 bricks and 2 dark green 1x1 round plates with open studs. Do this step twice to get 2 identical builds. Stack 4 bricks together then place the plate on top. Now you should have 2 of these. Place 1 stack on top of the stud of the 2x2 tile that is on the 2 leftmost columns. Then place the other stack on the stud of the back 2x2 tile that is in the middle of the build. This is the tile closest to the water bowl! Now put your build away while we build the roof.

46.1. Locate 1 purple 2x6 brick and 1 purple 6x6 plate. Place 1 brick vertically in front of you. Then place the 6x6 plate on top so it overhangs 4 columns to the right.

46.2. Locate 1 purple 2x6 brick. Vertically place it underneath the 2 rightmost columns of the overhang so it is centered.

46.3. Locate 2 purple 4x6 plates and 1 purple 2x6 brick. Vertically place 1 plate underneath the left brick so it overhangs 2 columns to the left. Repeat symmetrically for the right side. Then vertically place the 2x6 brick in the center of the 6x6 plate so there is no overhang.

46.4. Locate 15 tiles. Cover all of the studs of the previously placed plates.

46.5. Bring back your build so it is oriented the same way. Now horizontally place the roof on top of the back left corner so it sits on the 2x10 plate and pillars.

47. Underneath the roof in the back left, there is two 2x2 tiles together. You can place your food chest here so it opens to the front!

Visit bricksfortheblind.org for more accessible instructions and follow us on Facebook and Instagram to be the first to know when new instructions are available!

We also love seeing your completed builds, so please tag our Facebook and Instagram accounts in any photos of your builds so we can share your accomplishments with our Bricks for the Blind community.

Bricks for the Blind is a registered tax exempt 501(c)(3) corporation.

At the end of the instruction booklets are advertisements for the following 7 LEGO Minecraft Theme kits:

21256 The Frog House

21257 The Devourer Showdown

21251 Steve's Desert Expedition

21255 The Nether Portal Ambush

21252 The Armory

21253 The Animal Sanctuary

21254 The Turtle Beach