How to make: Cover the bulletin board with brown paper, and write the title “Syllable City.” Ask students to draw a skyline of tall buildings across the board. Cut rectangular “bricks” out of brown, black, white, and red construction paper. Write a Basic Word on each brick, leaving space between each letter. Store them in a manila envelope labeled Bricks, and attach it to the board. Provide more construction paper in different colors for students to use to top their buildings.

How to use: For each unit, have groups of 4 or 5 students select an equal number of “bricks” to construct a building. As they add each brick, they must draw slashes to break the word into syllables. Before creating a building, a group might draw a plan that shows the top of the building so the skyline will have a variety of shapes. For Unit 30, make bricks for the reviewed Basic Words, and then let students decide how many buildings to make out of the 50 bricks.