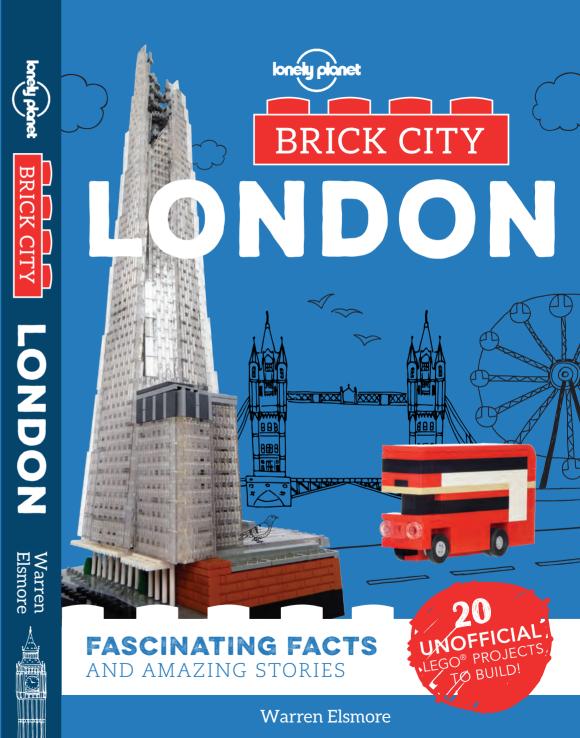
There is a world of things to explore in London! From the best museums to awesome things to see and the best places to hang out – discover skyscrapers, markets, vehicles, dragons and even fish & chips made up in quirky brick builds.

This unique guide to London includes 20 buildable LEGO[®] projects accompanied by step-by-step instructions, as well as 20 amazing models of the city's most famous landmarks and attractions, built by talented LEGO[®] artists.







THE GLOBE THEATRE

Britain's most famous playwright, William Shakespeare, lived and worked in London roughly 400 years ago, in Tudor times. One of the theatres where his plays were performed was the Globe, which stood on the southern bank of the Thames.

Today there's a modern reconstruction close to the original site, which still functions as a working theatre, based on drawings and descriptions from history.



The home of Shakespeare's theatre

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In Shakespeare's day, theatres were banned in the stuffy city of London, so people paid a penny to travel over the river by boat to Southwark.

PANTS ON FIRE In 1613, the Globe Theatre went in flames during a performance of Shakespeare's Henry VIII. A cannon used as a prop misfired, setting fire to the roof. According to reports at the time, nobody to shurt except a man whose breeches were burning!



Women weren't allowed on stage in Shakespeare's time, so the female parts were played by boys.



The Tower of London's Waterloo Barracks is the home of the Crown Jewels, which are in a very real sense priceless. The royal family's most precious jewels are kept under strict lock and key. The British Crown Jewels include ten, yes ten, crowns!

There are also swords, orbs, sceptres and other bling things needed to crown British monarchs. The whole super-shiny collection is kept behind extra-thick toughened glass and protected by the latest hi-tech security in the Jewel House of the Tower of London. That's because it's worth...£3–5 billion (\$5–8 billion)!

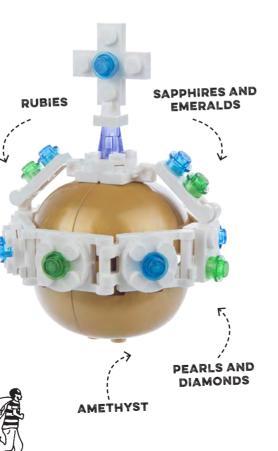
STOLEN!

In 1671, Thomas Blood and his gang tried to steal the crown jewels and nearly got away with it. Blood tricked the keeper of the jewels into letting him see them. Then he knocked the keeper out, flattened Edward's crown with a mallet and hid it under his cloak. He even stuffed an orb down his breeches!



HOLD THIS, YOUR MAJESTY

A golden orb and a jewel-encrusted sceptre are handed to the monarch at their crowning ceremony, along with a sword and some gold armlets.





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