Circle Activities for Preschool - Shapes Theme

Pratt's Educational Resources

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Shapes

Books
Brown Rabbit's Shape Book by Alan Baker
Circle Dogs by Kevin Henkes
Red Bear's Fun with Shapes by Bodel Rikys
So Many Circles, So Many Squares by Tana Hoban
The Secret Birthday Message by Eric Carle
The Greedy Triangle by Marilyn Burns (Includes other shapes.)
When a Line Bends ... A Shape Begins by James Kaczman

Math Activities
Find the Shape
Find different shapes in the house, school, outside, in buildings, stores, grocery stores, signs, etc. Name the shape after you find it.

Matching Shapes Game
Age Level: Toddlers through Early Elementary Grades
Each child takes a turn placing a small shape on top of the matching larger shape. For variation, make the same shapes on different colors of paper, and have the children match by color instead of by shape.

Make a Shape

Added 4/6/05
Using flat ended toothpicks, craft sticks, straws (cut them smaller), etc. have a child create various shapes (e.g. triangle (3 sides), square / rectangle (4 sides), pentagon (5 sides), hexagon (6 sides), heptagon (7 sides), octagon (8 sides), etc. If you use toothpicks, you can have the child glue it onto a piece of paper.

What Shape Am I?
Copyright 2000, 2005 Barbara Pratt. All rights reserved.
I am thinking of a shape. It is a rectangle with all four sides equal.
What am I? (A square).
I am thinking of a shape that has three sides and three corners
What am I? (A triangle, etc.).
I am thinking of a shape that has no sides and no corners
What am I? (A circle).
I am thinking of a shape that has two sides that are shorter than the other two sides, and they have right angles.
What am I? (A rectangle).
I am thinking of a shape that has five points.
What am I? (A star).
I am thinking of a shape that looks like my face, but it is longer than a circle.
What am I? (An oval).

I Have A Shape
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Teaching Procedure:

1. Introduce the class to the rhyme by saying the rhyme several times.

2. Have the class say the rhyme several times until they know the rhyme.

3. Divide the class into two groups and have both groups say the rhyme as they use different body movements to illustrate a certain shape. Have the groups use other movements as they make the shape.

Examples: Make a circle by holding hands.
          Make a rectangle by standing together in 2 long lines and 2 short lines.
4. Came back as a class to see what each group came up with.

**My Version of I Have A Shape**

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(This is great for home schooling since you will not have enough children to make the shapes. You can use this in the classroom.)

1. Say the rhyme above while holding in your hands a shape (the shape can be on paper or blocks). For example, circle, triangle, rectangle, square, oval, etc.

2. Have the class say the rhyme several times until they know the rhyme.

3. Ask the children: "What shape do I have?" Have the children respond each time you do a different shape. When you come to the circle, put your arms above your head to form a circle. When you come to the triangle, put your arms above your head and put your hands together to form a triangle shape. Have the children do the same thing for these two shapes.

**This Is A Shape**

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Grade Level: Preschool through Early Elementary

This part is from my sister, Donna S.

**Rhyme**

This is a shape.
This is a shape.
Oh, can you guess?
Oh, can you guess?
What shape this is?

This is a circle.
This is a circle.
Yes, it is a circle.
Because it's round.

I added these lines:

This is a square.
This is a square.
Yes, it is a square.
Because it's a rectangle with all four sides equal.
This is a triangle.
This is a triangle.
Yes, it is a triangle.
Because it has three sides and three corners

This is a rectangle.
This is a rectangle.
Yes, it is a rectangle.
Because it has two sides that are shorter than the other two sides, and they have right angles.

This is a star.
This is a star.
Yes, it is a star.
Because it has five points.

This is an oval.
This is an oval.
Yes, it is an oval.
Because it looks like my face, but it is longer than a circle.

Have the children say the rhyme in a steady beat. When the children discover what shape it is, they say the rhyme using the second line, third line, fourth line, etc. Change the rhyme to include the shapes that the children want to use.

**Home Economics: Shape Snacks**

**Shape Sugar Cookies or Shape Biscuits**
Make round, heart, other shaped cookies using cookie cutters or cut your own shape using a plastic knife.
Use my recipes: [sugar cookies](#) or [dairy-free sugar cookies; biscuits](#) or [df biscuits](#).

**Shape Sandwiches**
Make sandwiches. Cut them into triangles, use a circle, heart, etc. cookie cutter, or cut your own shape using a plastic knife.

**Music**

**There Are So Many Stars**

**Shape Patterns (Templates)**
You can use these shapes from these sites as shape patterns for paper, felt, etc. You might need to reduce the size of some images.

[Basic Shapes - Math and Numbers @ Brobst Systems](#) Pictures and names of these shapes
(circle, square, triangle, rectangle, and oval).

- **Circuit Board Sculpture** Equilateral: Triangle, quadrilateral (square), pentagon, hexagon
- **Crayola Coloring & Activities: Basic Shapes**
- **Label Simple Shapes Printout - EnchantedLearning**
- **Max Math's Adventure: Max's Fantastical Zoo** You can also use these shapes (triangle, circle, rectangle, diamond, square, oval, and star) as shape patterns for paper or felt.
- **Shape Templates for primary art projects @ TLS Books**
- **StoryPlace Pre-school Library: Shapes: Shape Mobile**
- **The Shapes: A Coloring Book to Print - EnchantedLearning** Circle, oval, triangle, square, rectangle, diamond, star, crescent, heart, pentagon, octagon, hexagon, cube, cone, pyramid, and sphere.

**Misc. Links**
- [Weaving @ Niti.org](#)

**Printables**
- **A Kids Heart - PreSchool -PreKindergarten Activities: Shapes**
- **April's Preschool Activities** Including activities and printables for shapes. *New 4/21/04*
- **Basic Shapes - Math and Numbers @ Brobst Systems** Pictures and names of these shapes (circle, square, triangle, rectangle, and oval).
- **Basic Shapes Exercises - Math and Numbers: Print and Learn @ Brobst Systems** Write the correct shape on the lines.
- **Bry-Back Manor Activity Pages**
- **Bry-Back Manor: Butterflies - Circles**
- **Children's Author & Illustrator Suse MacDonald** Sea Shapes Maze, and Coloring Pages.
- **Coloring Pages at PrimaryGames.com: Sammy's Shape Collection (a worm)** Circle, square, triangle, rectangle, star, diamond, and heart.
- **DLTK-Kids Learning Our Shapes Section** BINGO Game, Coloring pages, The Shapes Buddies Poem, various crafts, and shapes mobile (large star, small: square, triangle, and circle).
- **DLTK's Search Results for Shapes**
- **Ellie & Ollie Find Sunken Treasure: Coloring Book Index**
- **Free Preschool and Kindergarten Worksheets from the Kid's Page Archive** Big, Bigger, Biggest; Trace and Color, Fishy Fun; patterns worksheets, I'm Learning About Shapes worksheets, and Match the Shapes.
- **Kids Crafty: Shapes** Different objects for these shapes: circle, heart, oval, rectangle, star, square, and triangle.
- **Lil'Fingers Coloring Pages: Shapes**
- **Little People Coloring Pages: Shapes**

- **Math K Pattern Block Game @ Saxon**
- **Parenting Preschoolers: Preschool Print-Outs** Trace, color, and cut out (triangle and square; rectangle and circle).
- **Scissor Skills @ Beautiful Beginnings Daycare** Animals, etc.
- **SchoolExpress: Freeworksheets | Ages 3 to 6 | Shapes**
- **Sesame Workshop: Coloring Pages - Shapes**
Shape Worksheets @ Premier Day Care Formations (tracing) and worksheets.
Shape Templates for primary art projects @ TLS Books
Shapes Coloring/Activity Page @ Beautiful Beginnings Daycare Pages for: circles, squares, diamonds, rectangles, ovals, and triangles.
Teacher Time Saver: Worksheets It is about 3/4 the way down, under Art: Geometric coloring sheets, and more.
Treasures of the Heart Childcare How many squares; Match the Squares; Square House (cut and paste); and a happy triangle (with the word triangle on the page).
Zini's Activity Page

Shape Activities Links
April's Preschool Activities Including activities and printables for shapes. New 4/21/04
ChildFun.com - Shapes: Themes and Activities; including songs
Max's Math: Max's Fantastical Zoo @ Scholastic