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Imagination Station Family Fun Activity Guide

Title: Identifying Shapes

Ages: Preschool

Standards: TN-ELDS

PK.G.2. Identify several basic shapes.

PK.G.3. With guidance and support, explore the attributes of two-and three-dimensional shapes.

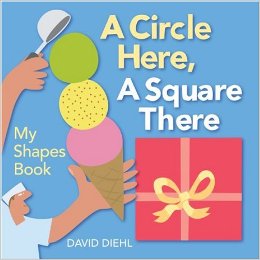
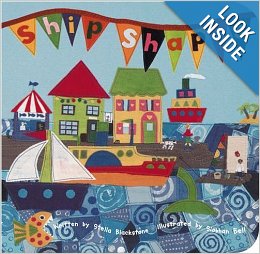
PK.G.5. Identify shapes in the real world environment.

Ship Shapes by Stella Blackstone (2008)

In this book, readers will see how many shapes you can spot while sailing the ocean. Readers will be on a search for jewels and treasure.

A Circle Here, A Square There by David Diehl (2007)

In this book, readers will see the shapes that are in everyday life: a slice of pizza, wrapped gift, and a crescent moon. Readers will notice the unexpected shapes in common items.

\*Special Note: Depending on the age of your child, they might need more help from you. Let the child do what he or she can, but assist them whenever necessary. Also, all these activities do not have to be completed all at once. If your child starts to get bored or tired, take a break, and come back to the activities later in the day.

Giant Shape Sort: Communication, Gross motor skills, and Problem solving

A Circle Here, A Square There Masking tape

Show your child the book A Circle Here, A Square There, and ask them to make predictions of what they think the book may be about. Also, ask them to identify the shapes on the cover of the book. As you read the book aloud, make sure to point out and talk about the different shapes.

After reading the book, use the masking tape to make a circle, a square, a rectangle, and a triangle on the floor. Use approximately 4ft of tape to make the circle. Use approximately 4ft (1ft on each side) to make the square. Use approximately 6ft (2ft by 1ft) for the rectangle. Use approximately 3ft (1ft on each side) for the triangle. Have your child search around the house for items that are in the shape of a circle, a square, a rectangle, and a triangle. Have them place the items inside the masking tape shape. After your child has finished placing items in the shapes, go over each item with them making sure they are correct. Talk about why or why not each item belongs in that shape.

Fishing for Shapes: Communication, Gross motor skills, Fine motor skills, and Problem solving

Ship Shapes Fish with shapes on them Stick with magnet attached Paper clips

Show your child the book Ship Shapes, and ask them to make predictions of what they think the book is about. As you read the book aloud, make sure to point out and talk about the different shapes.

After reading the book, place a paper clip on each of the fish. Scatter the fish on the floor. Use the stick with the magnet attached to “go fishing” for shapes. Call out a shape to your child, and have them catch the fish that has that shape on it. Be sure to explain why or why not this is the correct fish. If your child needs more practice with shapes before doing this, first, have the child catch any fish, and together talk about what shape is on the fish they caught.

Shape Slap It: Communication, Gross motor skills, and Problem solving

2 decks of shape cards

Shape Slap It is a 2 player game that resembles the game Slap Jack. Take the first deck of cards, and place it in the middle. Take the other deck, and spilt it in half. Each player receives a half. To play the game a card from the middle deck is flipped over for each player to see. This card tells what shape you are looking for. For example, a circle. Each player will take turns laying cards face up in another stack in the middle. When a circle card is laid down you want to be the first player to smack it. The first player to smack it receives that card and the cards below it. At this time, a new card will be flipped over from the deck. For example, a square. A square is now the card you are looking for to slap. The game is over when one player runs out of cards. The player with all the cards wins. If your child becomes tired before the game ends, decide a winner based on who has the most cards.

Extension Activity:

Shape Gel Find

As an extension activity, use the Ziploc bags filled with black gel. Each bag contains a shape. The shape will be a circle, a square, a rectangle, or a triangle. Without opening the bag have your child gently squeeze and feel the shape in the bag. After feeling the shape inside the bag, have your child guess what shape is inside the bag. To check your child, gently squeeze and feel the bag to decide what shape is in the bag. Do this for each of the bags until your child has gotten each correct. This activity can be done as many times as desired.

Shape Hopscotch

As another extension activity, take your child outside, and draw large shapes on the concrete or pavement. Draw a circle, a square, a rectangle, and a triangle fairly close together. Call out a shape, and have your child jump into that shape. As you call out different shapes your child will be hopping from shape to shape. To make the activity more difficult, start calling out the shapes faster and faster.