A Place for a Shape

Preschool | Math | 35 minutes
---|---|---
by Yvette Waterman

July 10, 2015

Detective time! In this lesson, your students will become shape detectives and go on a shape hunt to find the missing shapes on a grid.

Learning Objectives

Students will be able to name shapes and match the same shapes.

Materials and Preparation

- A prepared grid (1 shape per box, 9 boxes total, 1 grid per student)
- Shape stickers or precut 1" shapes from construction paper
- Glue sticks
- Precut larger shapes for modeling (a pair of each shape desired)

Lesson

Introduction (5 minutes)

- Tell students that today they will be shape detectives! Explain that the shapes have lost their friends, and it's up to the students to find their missing friends.

Explicit Instruction/Teacher Modeling (5 minutes)

- Spread the shapes prepared for modeling on the floor or table.
- Hold up one shape.
- Ask students to name the shape.
- After students name the shape, have them identify the properties of the shape (number of sides, angles).
- Repeat the process for all of the prepared shapes.

Get more lesson plans at [www.education.com/lesson-plans/](http://www.education.com/lesson-plans/)
Guided Practice/Interactive Modeling *(5 minutes)*

- Hold up a shape again, asking students to name the shape. Ask students if they see the shape’s friend that looks just like it.
- Either have one student find the matching shape, or have the group point to the matching shape. Lay the two shapes side-by-side.
- Repeat the process two or three more times.

Independent Working Time *(10 minutes)*

- Give each student a prepared grid with shapes pre-printed on it.
- If using construction paper shapes, give each student a glue stick.
- Tell your students that they need to be detectives and find the missing shape that matches each one in a box.
- Spread out the stickers or the prepared 1” shapes on the table, and tell students to start finding the matching shapes.
- If students are able to work independently, have them complete the entire grid. If students need more support, point to each box on the grid until the grid is completed.

Get more lesson plans at [www.education.com/lesson-plans/](http://www.education.com/lesson-plans/)
Extend

Differentiation

- **Enrichment:** Use "non-traditional" shapes (octagon, pentagon, etc.) to introduce new shapes to students who have mastered the basic shapes. Have students attempt to draw the shape next to the one they found. Increase the number of boxes in the grid for students to complete.
- **Support:** If a student is struggling with a particular shape, create a grid with just that shape so the student gets repetitive practice with that shape. Ask the student to name the shape each time he finds a match. Decrease the number of boxes on the grid for the student to complete.

Related Books and/or Media

- *Mouse Shapes* by Ellen Stoll Walsh
- *A Circle Here, A Square There* by David Diehl
- **GAME:** Museum Spot the Shapes

Review

Assessment *(5 minutes)*

- As the students are finding the shapes, ask them to name the shapes.

Review and Closing *(5 minutes)*

- As a review, hold up one of the student's grids and point to a shape, asking students to name the shape.
- You can also summarize with a book about shapes, such as *Mouse Shapes* by Ellen Stoll Walsh. As you read, ask students to name the shapes on each page.