

Shape Hunt

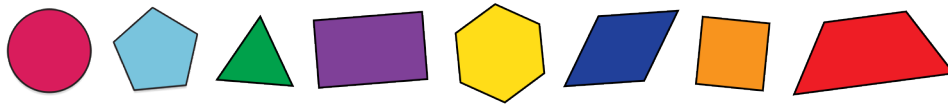
Players 1+ Ages 3+ 5-10 min

GOAL

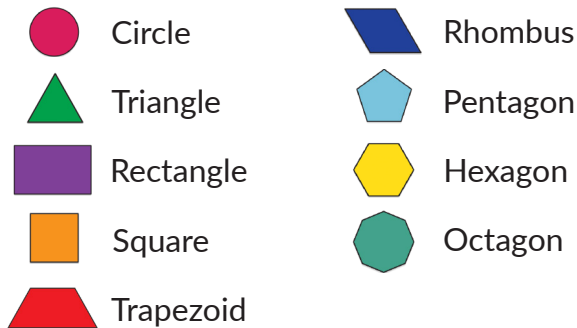
Children search for shapes they see around them.

MATERIALS

Shape blocks or cutouts to use as examples



VOCABULARY



QUESTIONS

How did you find your shape?
How did you know that your shape is a triangle?
How is the shape you found the same as the one I showed?
How is the shape you found different than the one I showed?

HOW TO PLAY

1. Begin by showing the children the shape they will "hunt" for. You can ask, "What do you notice about this shape? How many sides does it have? Are the sides straight or curved? How many corners or vertices?"
2. Once children are familiar with the shape, have them explore the space around them and find an object that has that shape.

3. If possible, ask children to bring their object or shape back to the group. Or, they could take a picture of it or draw it.
4. Have children describe their object or shape. Ask how their object is the same and how it is different from the shape you showed them.
5. Pick a new shape to find!

TIPS FOR PLAYING

- If you are in a small space you could have the shapes on a table and have children pick up the shape that matches your clue.

WHAT CHILDREN ARE LEARNING

- Our world is composed of shapes and children love noticing the shapes and talking about them. Artists, architects, and engineers use shapes to compose their work.
- Children are building their vocabulary and language skills. And, they are practicing an important mathematical habit of mind—giving precise descriptions of what they see using good evidence.

SHAPE ATTRIBUTES



Circle

No vertices or corners, the curve is always the same distance from a center point



Triangle

Exactly 3 straight sides



Rectangle

Exactly 4 straight sides, 4 right angles (like the corner of a piece of paper)



Square

Exactly 4 straight equal sides and 4 right angles



Trapezoid

Exactly 4 straight sides, one pair of opposite sides is parallel (like train tracks)



Rhombus

Exactly 4 straight equal sides, both pairs of opposite sides are parallel (like train tracks)



Pentagon

Exactly 5 straight sides



Hexagon

Exactly 6 straight sides



Octagon

Exactly 8 straight sides

* A note about the vocabulary: A vertex (plural vertices (vur·tuh·seez)) is where two sides meet. An angle is the space between where two lines meet. Angles are usually measured in degrees. For example, a square has four vertices and four 90° angles.

MATH TOPICS

Shapes and Geometry

VIDEO



Watch Game Video

View the QR code in your smartphone's camera app or QR code reader to watch a video that shows how to play Shape Hunt.