

# Which One Doesn't Belong? with Shapes

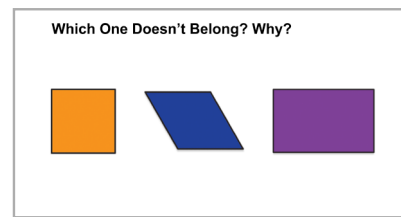
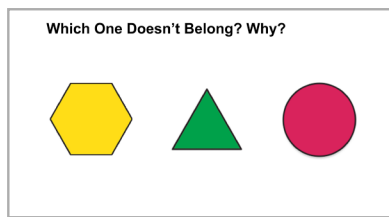
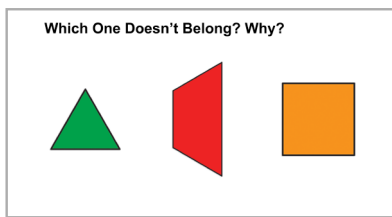
Players 1-4    Ages 4+    5-10 min

## GOAL

Children describe different ways that the shapes are alike and different. Try to find many reasons why one shape doesn't belong.

## CARDS TO USE

### Which One Doesn't Belong Cards



## VOCABULARY

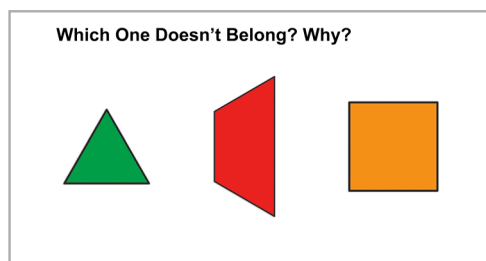
Same  
Alike  
Different

## QUESTIONS

Which one of these cards doesn't belong? What do you see that makes you say that?  
Do you see another way that one of these shapes doesn't belong?

## HOW TO PLAY

1. Show children a *Which One Doesn't Belong* Card.



2. You could start by asking, “What do you notice about these shapes?”
3. Encourage children to share all of their ideas.
4. Then, you can ask, “Which shape is different from the others in some way? Is there a way that one shape is special or unique? How?”
5. Once children share their ideas about how one shape is different in some way, you can ask, “Is there another way that one of the shapes is different? How?”
6. Encourage children to share lots of ideas and share your own. Some of the differences that might come up are: color, size, number of sides, number of vertices or corners, whether a shape is turned or tilted, and so on.

### TIPS FOR PLAYING

- You can use any three objects to play this game. Find objects around the classroom or at home and see how many different ideas you can come up with.
- There are many right answers in this game! Children might say that a circle doesn't belong because the square and trapezoid both have four sides. Or they might say that the triangle doesn't belong because the rectangle and square are their favorite building blocks. Accept any answers that children can reasonably justify. The important part is that they're thinking and talking mathematically and having fun.
- Children may not yet have the words to describe what they mean precisely. Encourage them to point to the shape that they think doesn't belong. You and other children can help them use new words to describe why they think it doesn't belong.

## WHAT CHILDREN ARE LEARNING

- 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 evidence.
- Children are practicing describing shape attributes, or characteristics—straight or curved sides; number of sides; length of sides; number of corners or vertices; size of the angles; and other attributes.

## 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 Which One Doesn't Belong.