

KLUTZ Build-a-Book[®] SHAPES ALL AROUND ME

Geometry • Kindergarten–1

OVERVIEW: Think of this as a mini-unit for primary students that blends art, literacy, and geometry. It will take 7 sessions of 1–1½ hours to complete. All of it will be fun and engaging. Once completed, students will have a keepsake and a learning tool to take home and teach others what he/she has learned.

OBJECTIVES

- Name, recognize, and draw/build two-dimensional geometric shapes found in surrounding environments
- Independent exploration with a language-rich component
- Value and reward uniqueness
- Reinforcement of primary literacy concepts — title, author, illustrator, left-to-right orientation, sequencing, picture/word association

MATERIALS & RESOURCES

- Klutz Build-a-Book Big Kit and child-safe scissors for each student
- Recycled materials (scrap fabric, yarn, ribbon, gift wrap, textured papers, etc.) for sharing
- Markers, crayons, or colored pencils for sharing



IN A NUTSHELL

Students build individual books demonstrating their knowledge of basic geometric shapes. Each of five spreads (two adjacent pages) focuses on a basic shape (circle, square, rectangle, triangle, oval). The child first identifies the shape in a specific environment, then illustrates his/her image.



MORE DETAILS

1. Introduce the shape (a circle) and describe the attributes.
2. Brainstorm a list of all the things in the classroom that are the same shape.
3. Ask students to stand in a big circle. Ask a few to make a smaller circle inside the bigger circle. With your hand, make a circle in the air above your head.
4. Find a partner and take turns drawing a small circle on his/her back with your finger. Make a bigger circle around the smaller circle.

5. Shape Search Homework: Find and make a list of three circle shapes in your kitchen. Think about one that will become part of your book.

Repeat 1–5 with the introduction of each new shape. Play with words and encourage students to use their bodies, such as: While in a tangle, make a rectangle. Draw a square in the air. As you dangle, make a triangle.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

- Use “locator” words in the description of images, such as: The chicken is **on top of** the cow.
- Write or tell a story using all of your shapes and images.
- Ask students to read their books to a person older than them and one younger than them.

