



Shapes

Words

Words Level 1: circle, triangle, heart, square

Words Level 2: rectangle, oval, diamond, star

Getting Started

- Your child may have a game or puzzle with the shapes in Level 1. Use these objects to review the words in English. Ask your child to draw these shapes on a paper (they may need help with the heart). Talk about the sides of the triangle and square and count together: “The triangle has 1, 2, 3 sides.” “The square has 1, 2, 3, 4 sides.”
- If your child knows the Level 2 words, help her or him draw a rectangle and an oval. Compare the oval to the shape of a circle. Compare the rectangle to the square.

Practice

- **Search and Find!** For this game, start small, and then go big! First, draw each shape down one side of a piece of paper. Now for the first challenge: Ask your child to find shapes on their clothes or on your clothes. Keep score on the paper. Next challenge: Look for all the shapes in their room or in the kitchen. Final challenge: Find very big shapes outside (or in images); for example, on buildings, on signs, or on the playground.
- **Feel it!** Without your child, gather together objects which have clear shapes, for example plates, a tray, books or toys. Try to find as many of the shapes as possible. Now cover your child's eyes with a scarf or other material. Carefully put an object in his or her hands and ask the name of the shape in English. If needed, guide them by helping count the sides. Help them guess the shape and the exact object!

Activities

- **The Shape Gallery!** For this activity you need heavy paper, pens or crayons and craft materials such as glue, toothpicks and/or craft sticks (bigger), and yarn.
 - Plan your work to fit 3-4 shapes on each piece of paper.
 - Start with triangle or square and use the sticks to form the shape and glue it onto your piece of paper. Write the name of the shape for your child below each one.
 - Continue with the other shapes. For circle and oval, use yarn.
 - When the shapes are finished, add color inside each one.
 - Hang the shape gallery in a place where everyone can see it.
 - Keep practicing the words!
- **Shape day!** Choose one or two shapes and try to use these shapes (or a single shape) in everything you do for one day! Wear clothes with that shape, fold your napkins in shapes, cut your food in the shape you have chosen, form the shapes with your arms or legs (or with a partner). If you're feeling extra silly, change the words to familiar songs: "The Itsy Bitsy Diamond Went Up the Water Spout" or "Old MacDonald Had a Square!"

Extra Fun (Older Children)

- **Circle square circle!** First, you and your child each cut out a set of shapes, using any paper. Help out with the scissors! It's best to have three or more of each shape. Now put the shape cutouts in a row of 4 with any pattern, such as: oval, oval, rectangle, star. Do not let your child see! Your child guesses the pattern, putting four shapes on the table. To learn the correct shapes in the pattern, your child must ask questions, for example, "Does it have 4 sides?" Take turns.

A Recipe Just for You!

Shape-wiches!



Sandwiches in different shapes are called shape-wiches! All you need is your favorite sandwich ingredients, some time and your imagination!

Tools

Knife or kitchen scissors (for adult only)

Large glass

Cookie-cutters if available

Ingredients

- Sliced sandwich bread
- Slices of meat for sandwiches (salami, turkey, ham, and so on)
- Cheese slices
- Carrot sticks
- Optional: sliced olives, peppers, tomatoes, or any other ingredient you can think of!

Steps

- 1) Decide what shape or shapes you want the sandwich to be.
- 2) PARENTS/CAREGIVERS ONLY: Use a knife to cut the bread and other main

ingredients into that shape. If you choose to do a circle, your child may be able to use a glass to cut the shape out of the bread.

- 3) With the carrot sticks form a shape on the sandwich plate.
- 4) Put the sandwich on the plate and get creative! Add olive “eyes” (for a face or fish), add other smaller pieces of shaped bread for fins, legs or hats!
- 5) Review the shape names, have fun, and eat up!

