



Where Are The Shapes?

Circles and Prisms and Squares, Oh My!

Beginner: Point out objects that are shaped like circles, squares, rectangles, triangles, and other shapes.

[Tip]: “Look! The milk cap is shaped like a circle! The book is a rectangle.”

Intermediate: Encourage your child to name the shapes they see around them, and to tell you how many sides they have.

[Tip]: Notice that coins are circles and have 0 sides, while books are rectangles and have 4 sides.

Experienced: Have your child find 3-D objects such as cylinders, prisms, cubes, cones and spheres.

[Tip]: A cereal box is a rectangular prism, a can is a cylinder, an ice cream cone is a cone, and a ball is a sphere.

Why is this important? Learning the name of shapes helps children describe 2 and 3 dimensional objects.

References: VandeWalle, J. A. (2011). Elementary and Middle School Mathematics: Teaching Developmentally. Pearson Canada. Pg. 123