



Fun with Forts

Building Forts

Beginner: Build a fort that has 4 sides.

[Tip]: Use chairs, pillows, blankets, or sheets.

Intermediate: Build a fort that has more than 4 sides. Name the shape.

[Tip]: Say “Let’s build a fort with 6 sides! A shape with 6 sides is called a hexagon!”

Experienced: Build a fort with “rooms,” with each room being a different shape. Name the shapes.

[Tip]: Say “Let’s build a room in the shape of a square. Next to it, let’s build a heptagon-shaped room!”

[Brief] Why? Learning about shapes develops spatial intelligence, which is important for understanding math concepts.

[Detailed] Why? Working with shapes helps children understand dimension, geometry, and symmetry, all important skills in math. Building forts together is fun, and improves problem solving and social skills.

References: POEM 2012 Conference (2012). (2014). Early mathematics learning. (U. Kortenkamp, Ed.). Springer. <https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4614-4678-1>

Caregiver Handbook: Shapes