

Theme: Colors & Shapes

Gross Motor (Indoor & Outdoor):

- Jump on the red square, spin on the blue triangle, etc.; children have fun racing to the right shape. Cut them the size of a full sheet of poster paper and lay them across the yard.
- Hop like a green frog, fly like a yellow butterfly...
- Tricycles & other riding equipment
- Climbers
- Swings
- Balloon volleyball – *make sure there are no latex allergies!*

Math Activities:

- Copy patterns by lining up pegs in a color order; children line theirs up in the same pattern following the model.
- Matching game – match blue triangles, red squares, etc.
- Folder games
- Color/shape bingo

Science Activities:

- Prisms
- Mixing colors – food coloring in water
- Kaleidoscopes
- Magnets and colored magnetic shapes

Small Motor/Manipulatives:

- Wood blocks, colored blocks
- Legos
- Color & shape puzzles
- Colorful link toys, such as pop beads
- Colorful pegs/peg boards
- Sticker activity – round label stickers in a variety of colors onto colored paper background (black paper looks great with florescent-colored stickers!)
- Shape sorters
- Colorful stackers

Snacks:

Oranges
Carrots
Round cookies
Square sandwiches (or triangles)
Triangle chips
Rectangular crackers
Star fruit

Ice cream cones
Boiled eggs
Ham cubes
Cheese cubes

Special Visual Aids/Room Set-Up/Field Trips:

Display colored shapes around the room. Write the name of the color/shape on each. Wear a scarf or boa to match that color day! Wild socks are fun, too! One lady I know had a colorful straw hat covered in bright pompoms she had glued all over the hat, ball fringe, etc.

Songs & Fingerplays:

Use the old standards, such as: The Wheels on the Bus, In My Little Red Car

Books:

Bear in a Square (Blackstone)
Purple, Green and Yellow (Munsch)
Go, Clifford, Go! (Scholastic Inc.)
Clifford, the Big Red Dog (Bridwell)
Duckie's Rainbow (Barry)
Can You See the Red Balloon? (Blackstone)
Babar's Book of Color (Brunhoff)
Kitten Red, Yellow, Blue (Catalanotto)
Planting a Rainbow (Ehlert)
Crayon Counting Book (Ryan)
Ballerina! (Sis)

Shapes (Pistoia)
One Gray Mouse (Burton)
Mixed-Up Chameleon (Carle)
Yellow Umbrella (Drescher)
Blue (Bryant-Mole)
Cleo's Color Book (Blackstone)
Dog's Colorful Day (Dodds)
Warthogs Paint (Edwards)
I Like Colors (Hicks)
Blue Aliens! (Porto)
Blue with Other Colors (Parker)

Circus Shapes (Murphy)
Cat's Colors (Cabrera)
Dog Blue (Dunbar)
In a Blue Room (Averbeck)
Green (Bryant-Mole)
Red (Bryant-Mole)
Yellow (Bryant-Mole)
Blue (Dupasquier)
Color Zoo (Ehlert)
Mouse Paint (Walsh)
Kid Tea (Ficocelli)

Dramatic Play:

- o Blocks
- o Colored blocks
- o Clothes with stripes, polka dots, and other distinct shapes

Art:

- o Color with crayons on white paper
- o Paint a rainbow; enhance with clear glitter
- o Fingerpaint with primary colors (red, yellow, blue)
- o Make a man/woman out of shapes; glue figure onto paper background
- o Create mobiles from colored shapes
- o Dye rice to glue onto cutout shapes

Circle Time Activities:

- o Identify colors
- o Identify shapes
- o Cover one shape per day and one color per day, or mix them up throughout the week. If your children are younger, only one per day is enough.
- o Walk/look around the room pointing out shapes in everyday things.
- o Play "I Spy" to increase children's observation skills!
- o Using the "touchy-feely box", let children reach in to feel an item and describe its shape. Make it interesting by varying the textures, as well.
- o Cut shapes from different colors to use as seating mats during circle time.
- o Sing songs, do action rhymes and fingerplays
- o Play games requiring children to sit in a circle, such as hot potato or Duck-Duck-Goose (circle-circle-square!)
- o Talk about the color of foods and juices
- o Read, read, read!