

Literature to teach Geometry

Level 1

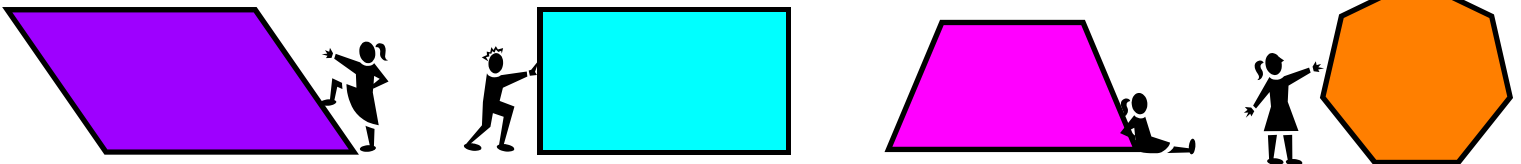
- Color Zoo by Lois Ehlert
- Captain Invisible and the Space Shapes (Math Start) by Stuart J. Murphy
- Bigger, Better, Best! (Math Start) by Stuart J. Murphy
- Skippy JonJones Shape Up by Judy Schachner
- Cubes, Cones, Cylinders, and Spheres by Tana Hoban
- Pigs on the Ball: Fun with Math and Sports by Amy Axelrod
- Grandfather Tang's Story: A Tale told with Tangrams by Ann Tompert
- Shape Up! Fun with Triangles and Other Polygons by David A. Adler
- Bear in a Square by Stella Blackstone
- Ship Shapes by Stella Blackstone
- Circus Shapes (Math Start) by Stuart J. Murphy

Level 2

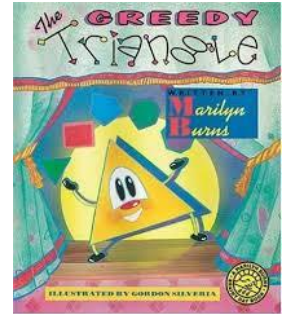
- Perfect Square by Michael Hall
- The Greedy Triangle by Marilyn Burns
- Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins
- The Doorbell Rang by Pat Hutchins
- Math Curse by John Schezka
- The Shape of Things by Dayle Ann Dodds
- A String of Beads by Margarett S. Reid

Level 3

- A Cloak for the Dreamer by Aileen Friedman
- Scaredy Squirrel by Melanie Watt
- The Important Book by Margaret Wise Brown
- All you Need for a Snowman by Alice Schertle



The Greedy Triangle by Marilyn Burns

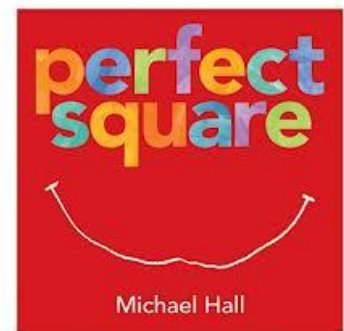


1. Read story aloud to students, stopping to discuss the various shapes they see in the illustrations. Invite students to count the number of sides (and angles/corners) they see for each shape.
2. After the story has been read, students will be given toothpicks and gumdrop candies (pretzel sticks and mini marshmallows can also be used). They will make each shape mentioned in the book, beginning with the triangle. As students make the shapes, they will fill out their activity sheet (Handout 1).
3. A large classroom chart can be created for display through the year as reference.

Extension:

As an extension activity, students can create three-dimensional solid figures and discuss edges, vertices, and faces.

The Perfect Square by Michael Hall



1. Read the story aloud. Invite students to predict what picture/shape the *perfect square* may create.
2. Give each student several squares made from construction paper.
3. Guide students in trying to make other known polygons using a square, i.e. two triangles, rectangles, etc.

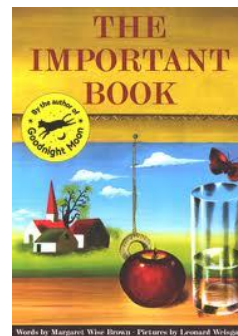
Students will cut out shapes and glue them on paper to make a drawing.

Students can write a story to go along with their drawing, similar to the pattern of a Perfect Square.

Extension:

A class book can be created to showcase all the work and stories.

The Important Book



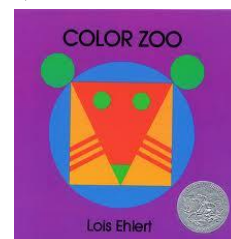
1. Read the story aloud. Discuss with students how the story is written and the pattern they notice in the book.
2. Students will create their own “Important Book” on geometric shapes. Assign each student a shape or important geometric term.
3. Pass out the activity (Handout 2) and have students brainstorm a list of attributes for their given shape.
4. Students will create their own paragraph and accompanying illustration to create a class book.

Extension:

This activity can be used across math topics and subject area (social studies, science, language arts) as a means to review key ideas.

The Color Zoo

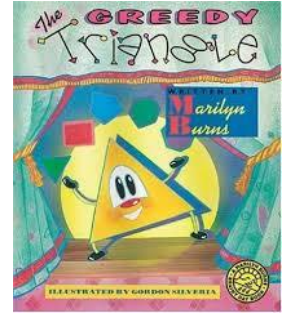
1. Read the story aloud. Have student identify the shapes they see. Invite students to predict which picture may be formed with each turn of the page. As you read, identify the shapes that have been turned upside down and remind students that although a shape may be “turned” or positioned at a different angle, it is still the same shape.
2. Cut several shapes of different colors and sizes, including the ones in Color Zoo (circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oval, heart, rhombus, octagon, hexagon, trapezoid, and parallelogram).
3. Students will make their own animal shapes by gluing the shapes together.
4. Encourage students to “experiment” with their shapes, before gluing.



Extension:

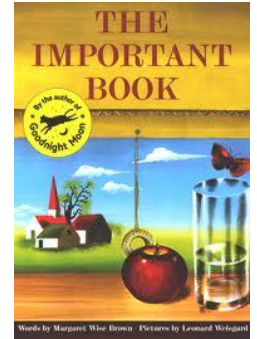
Using student white boards, draw a shape on your white board and invite students to draw the same shape on their board (without revealing yours). Provide directions that include multiple shapes and positions on the board. Students attempt to match your picture using your verbal directions.

Handout 1



Shape	Number of Sides	Number of Angles
Triangle		
Square		
Rectangle		
Pentagon		
Hexagon		
Octagon		

Handout 2



Shape: _____

List 5 attributes of your shape:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Choose the most important attribute to begin your writing:

The most important thing about a _____Name of shape_____ is

_____one attribute_____

_____. It also has _____second attribute_____

_____. A _____name of shape_____ has

_____third attribute_____ But the

most important thing about a _____name of shape_____ is

_____repeat the first sentence_____.

Notes

