

## Outline for Early Childhood Library Activity Identifying Shapes

### Standards / Positions Statements

This lesson focuses on the introduction of shapes. Children will have the opportunity to learn about different geometric shapes. In our every day lives we come across objects and things that are shaped a specific way.

### Children Input / Purpose

During free play, most children play at the playdough table. To expand on the child's thinking and imagination, we have a variety of playdough cutters. Shapes and figures make up this box of cutters that the children are so fascinated with. Some of the children do know the names of some shapes, but I would like all of the children to learn the names of all many more shapes. This lesson will help me grow on the shapes that the children are already familiar with. They can go home with the knowledge and find items in their homes that are shaped like the shapes that we learned about in class.

### Theme / Main Goals

My goals for this lesson is for the children to be exposed to new shapes. Children love to learn and discover new information. For some children, this will be completely new information and for some children this will be a review. We can also look around the room and find things and objects that are the same shapes as our cut - out shapes. It can be a scavenger hunt. I can give one shape to each child and have them look around the classroom to find an object that is the same as the one that I passed out for them to find.

### Small Group Opportunities

This is a great lesson for a small group of children. There are 10 shapes in this activity bag great for a small group activity. The teacher can hold up a shape and ask each child to repeat the name of the shape as a group or individually. Or the teacher can say, "Children please find the square." There are many ways to go about this lesson. Be creative.

### Individual Opportunities

If a child wants to work on this activity alone, that is fine. Perhaps he can make his own shapes by looking at the models in this activity bag. Perhaps he can trace the shapes or make his own shapes using his own paper. If a child needs extra help, a teacher can help and go over the shapes with the child.

### One on One - Teacher / Child Opportunities

A child is welcome to take this activity home and work on it with his parents or other adults. It would be a good idea to say that this is a big responsibility because a teacher is letting a student borrow an activity that took a lot of time and effort to make. The student must really take care of this activity. Teachers can also invite a child to play on a one-on-one basis using this activity instead of saying a negative comment such as "you need to learn your shapes because you have not learned them." If a child is having a hard time learning, he might not feel comfortable expressing that to a teacher, but that is why we must be observant and see where each child's needs are.

Materials / Organization

10 pre-made shapes -

Circle / Circulo

Cone / Cono

Cylinder / Cilindro

Hexagon / Hexágono

Octagon / Octágono

Oval / Ovalo

Pentagon / Pentágono

Rectangle / Rectangulo

Square / Cuadrado

Triangle / Triangulo

Assessment / Growth and Development of the Children in your Care

On the following day of class, only have these 10 shapes out on the playdough table. See if the children recall the activity or if they happen to mention any shapes that they remember. This is one way to figure out if the children are taking in the lesson.

Cylinder  
cilindro

Octagon  
Octágono

Square  
Cuadrado

Oval  
Oval

Cone  
cono

Rectangle  
Rectángulo

Triangle  
Triángulo

Hexagon  
Hexágono

Pentagon  
Pentágono

Circle  
circulo