



Storytime Activity Guide

City Shapes

written by Diana Murray and illustrated by Bryan Collier

More than just a simple book for exploring geometry, *City Shapes* is a poem about the beauty and symmetry that surrounds us. Told through the perspective of a curious child who is seeing the shapes in their environment, *City Shapes* is a vibrant story to help your child become more aware of the geometry in our world.

Did you know?

A good foundation in **early math** prepares children for “math thinking,” and for later academic success. **Early Math** includes number sense, classifications and patterning, measurement, mathematical reasoning, and geometry (shapes). While reading *City Shapes*, practice identifying the shapes that are pictured in the book. This will help develop your child’s early math skills. You can even play a simple guessing game by asking your child which shape they think will come next.



Words to Practice

Round
Pointy
Straight
Long
Short

Talk about it!

- While you are reading *City Shapes*, ask your child to find shapes in your own environment. Do they see a circle in the room you are in? Can they find a triangle in their toys? How about a rectangle?
- Using the clues in the book, ask your child to try and guess what shape is coming next. Why did they guess that shape?
- Talk to your child about the attributes of each shape. How many sides does it have? Are the sides the same size? How many angles does it have?

Find More Online

Scan this QR code for a Read Aloud of this book and more free resources.



qrco.de/CityShapes

Create!

Paint your own neighborhood using shapes and sponges.

Materials needed:

- Foam shapes or sponges
- Paper plate or pie pan to use as a paint palette
- Scissors
- Cardboard or Paper
- Markers or Pens
- Non-toxic Paint for kids

1. Ask your child what shapes they will need to make a picture of your neighborhood.



2. Draw the shapes on your sponge and help your child to cut the shapes out.



3. Get your paint ready by pouring a little of each color onto your paper plate or pie pan.



4. Ask your child to use the sponge shapes as stamps and ask them to paint a picture of your neighborhood.



5. As your child paints, talk to them about the shapes they are

Play: Shape Guessing Game

Describe a shape without using its name. "I'm thinking of a shape that has three sides. What shape am I thinking of?" "I'm thinking of a shape that's round but stretched. What shape am I thinking of?"

