

# Shape StoryBuilders: A Math Adventure!

## Materials Needed:

- Colored construction paper (various colors)
- Child-safe scissors
- Glue stick
- Markers or crayons
- A large sheet of paper or poster board (for the background)
- Optional: Pre-cut shapes for younger learners or to save time, shape stencils, googly eyes, yarn scraps.

## Lesson Activities:

### Part 1: Shape Roundup! (10-15 minutes)

**Objective:** Introduce or review 2D shapes.

1. **Shape Hunt:** Start by looking around the room or house. Ask your child, "What shapes do you see? Can you find a circle? A square? A triangle? A rectangle?" Point out examples like a clock (circle), a book (rectangle), a window (square/rectangle).
2. **Shape Introduction:** If you have pre-cut shapes or can quickly draw them, show each shape (circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oval, hexagon). Say its name clearly. Ask your child to repeat the name. Talk briefly about its properties: "A triangle has three sides and three corners. A square has four equal sides." Don't get too technical, keep it fun and observational.
3. **Shape Sorting (Optional):** If you have multiple cut-out shapes, have your child sort them into piles by type.

### Part 2: Shape Creators - The Wacky Build! (25-30 minutes)

**Objective:** Apply knowledge of shapes to create something new and imaginative.

1. **The Challenge:** Announce, "Today, we're going to be Shape StoryBuilders! Your mission is to use these colorful shapes to create your very own amazing picture. It could be a funny monster, a super-fast rocket ship, a beautiful garden, or anything you can imagine!"
2. **Provide Materials:** Lay out the colored construction paper, scissors (with supervision if needed, or provide pre-cut shapes), glue, and the large background paper.
3. **Creative Time:** Encourage your child to choose different shapes and colors. They can cut their own shapes or use pre-cut ones. Ask questions to stimulate creativity:
  - "What if you put a triangle on top of a square? What could that be?" (A house!)
  - "How can you use circles to make eyes or wheels?"
  - "Can you make a long body for your creature using rectangles?"
4. **Encourage Combining:** Gently guide them to see how shapes can fit together to make more complex forms. "Look, this triangle and this rectangle together look like an arrow!"
5. **No Right or Wrong:** Emphasize that this is about their imagination. There are no mistakes in art!

### Part 3: Show and Tell - Shape Story Time! (10-15 minutes)

**Objective:** Describe the creation using shape vocabulary.

1. **Present the Masterpiece:** Once your child is happy with their creation, it's time for the grand reveal!
2. **Shape Detective:** Ask your child to tell you about their picture. Prompt them with questions like:

- "Wow, that's amazing! What did you create?"
- "Which shapes did you use to make the [specific part of their picture, e.g., 'head of your monster']?"
- "How many circles did you use? How many triangles?"
- "Can you tell me a little story about your shape creation?"

3. **Positive Reinforcement:** Praise their creativity and their ability to identify and use the shapes. Display their artwork proudly!

### Extension Ideas (Optional):

- **Pattern Play:** Use leftover shapes to create simple patterns (e.g., circle, square, circle, square).
- **Shape Symphony:** Assign a sound or action to each shape. When you call out a shape, the child makes the sound/action.
- **3D Challenge (Advanced):** For older or more advanced children, briefly discuss how some 2D shapes can form faces of 3D objects (e.g., squares make a cube). This is just for exposure.

### Wrap-up:

Review the shapes learned and congratulate your child on becoming an official Shape StoryBuilder! Talk about how shapes are all around us and are the building blocks for many things we see and use.