

Instructional Unit Title: Shape Detectives

Integrated Mathematics and Visual Art

The teacher may provide pattern blocks so that the students can analyze and compare geometric shapes.

The teacher may introduce circles, squares, triangles, rectangles, hexagons, rhombus, and trapezoids so that the students can identify and describe shapes.

The teacher may provide pattern block mats so that students can create and compose shapes.

The teacher may introduce art vocabulary including shape, line, orientation (such as over, under, beneath, around, inside), and composition so that students can understand how these elements are used in art.

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT: You are going to show your artistic and mathematical skills by creating a non-objective geometric shape collage to share with the school (bulletin board, art show school website, parent back to school night, etc.). Students will produce an individual collage to show that they can identify, name, and count shapes regardless of orientation, size, or color. This will be a collage that will incorporate a thoughtful composition using color, shape, and space. Students will count the numbers of shapes in each category and record them on a provided template.

The teacher may show examples found in picture books of representational and non-objective art so that students can see and discuss examples of and then draw or collage representational works of art using geometric shapes.

The teacher may provide an opportunity for students demonstrate an understanding of how to count shapes that are not in linear order.

The teacher may provide an opportunity for students to discover and identify shapes in the real world such as a shape hunt through the school or playground.

This unit was authored by a team of Colorado educators. The unit is intended to support teachers, schools, and districts as they make their own local decisions around the best instructional plans and practices for all students. To see the entire instructional unit sample with possible learning experiences, resources, differentiation, and assessments visit <http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/instructionalunitsamples>.