Guess My Shape

Children listen to clues to identify geometric, three-dimensional shapes.

Blackline Master 25 (page 89)

Sheets of light card

Collection of geometric (wooden or plastic) and everyday, three-dimensional shapes (e.g. cone, cube, rectangular prism, sphere, pyramid, cylinder)

Collection of other geometric and everyday, three-dimensional shapes (e.g. triangular prism, pentagonal prism)

Paper and crayons for each child



Preparation

- Copy Blackline Master 25 onto light card and cut to make one set of cards. For the extension activity, make a set for each pair.
- Using light card, make signs for six geometric, three-dimensional shapes: cone, cube, rectangular prism, sphere, pyramid, and cylinder.



Activity

Show the children one of the geometric, three-dimensional shapes. Say, Tell us about this three-dimensional shape. What do you notice? Encourage the children to discuss the characteristics of the shape, such as faces, edges, and corners. Ask, Does this shape roll or stack, or do both? Repeat with the other geometric, three-dimensional shapes.

Have the children sit in a circle. Place all geometric and everyday, three-dimensional shapes in the middle. Say, I will read a card. You guess which three-dimensional shape I am describing. Encourage responses. Then have each child take turns to pick a card while another child points to the geometric or everyday, three-dimensional shape.



Extension



Distribute a set of cards and one example of each three-dimensional shape to each pair. Have children take turns to pick a card, read it, and place it next to its matching three-dimensional shape.

Show the children the other three-dimensional shapes that have different face shapes, such as triangular prisms and pentagonal prisms. Discuss the attributes of these shapes and have the children write or draw cards for them.