

**THE PARENT TUTOR**  
*...giving your child the edge!*

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**Kindergarten**

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**Building Block Skill:**

**Identify common objects in their environment and describe their geometric features.**

**Description:** Children should be able to identify common objects in their environment and describe their geometric features.

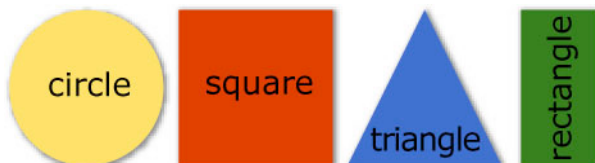
**Sample Questions:** What objects in your house are shaped like a circle? What shape is a book?

**Tutorial:** For this activity you will need the following materials:

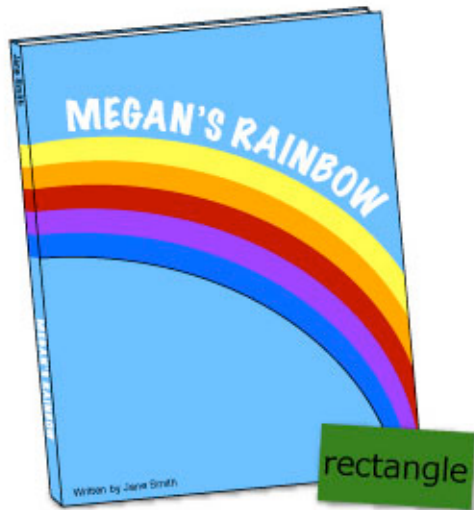
- Scissors
- Construction paper
- Ruler
- Pencil

Although your child won't study geometry until later grades, she'll be learning the basics over the next few years. Recognizing the shapes of things in her everyday environment will help build your daughter's basic geometry skills.

Let's go on a shape safari! To begin, help your child cut out a circle, a square, a triangle, and a rectangle from a piece of construction paper. Write the names of the shapes on the cutouts.



A good place to begin a shape safari is in her bedroom. Bring your cutouts with you and walk around her room, searching for shapes. Hold her cutouts next to objects in the room to decide if they look similar. For example, hold the rectangle cutout next to the cover of a book. Is it a match? If so, prompt her to say, "On my shape safari, I found a book. It is the shape of a rectangle!"



Be sure to ask her why the objects in the room look like the shapes. What characteristics make them a match? The following are some characteristics to look for in objects:

- Number of sides
- Round or straight sides
- Length of sides

Continue your shape safari in the rest of the house, the backyard, and eventually the neighborhood! A shape safari will help her remember the names of shapes and increase her awareness that geometry is a part of our everyday lives.