



Shapes Teachers' Notes

Learning objective: CLL Linking Sounds and Letters: Hear and say initial sounds in words, and know which letters represent some of the sounds Key words: are Cross-curricular/theme links: Maths – shapes Genre: Non-fiction NC level: Foundation stage Assessment: Check children's knowledge of sounds at the beginning of words Word count: 24

Getting started

Read the title to the children. Ask: 'What shapes can you see on the cover?' Can the children identify all the different shapes (triangle, circle, star, heart, square, rectangle)? Can they tell you what some of the different-shaped objects are (for instance, round buttons, heart-shaped sweets, triangular tortilla chips)? Flip through the book and identify the shape featured on each page.

Guided reading

Page 2: If necessary, help the children to read this sentence. Point out the tricky words 'are' and 'shapes'. Say: 'You will see those words a lot in this book!' Can the children identify the shape on this page?

Page 3: Ask: 'What shape is on this page? What sound does 'square' start with?" Can the children find the word 'square'? What letter does it start with?

Pages 4-7: Encourage the children to work through these pages in the same way, identifying the shape and the initial sound and letter of each shape word.

Page 8: Can the children remember all the different shape words and use their knowledge of letters and sounds to read them? Encourage them to trace the shapes with their fingers.

Speaking and listening

• After reading, give the children a range of small objects in different shapes, and encourage them to work in pairs to sort the objects by shape. Look for good listening and collaboration.

After reading

Use these questions to help children talk about the book.

- What type of book is this a story or an information book?
- Can you remember all the shapes in the book?
- Can you see anything in this room that is one of those shapes?

Reading into writing

Ask the children to think of three objects that are different shapes. They can draw the objects and label them with the shape names, using the book as a prompt if necessary.

Book quiz for children

- 1 What shape are the buttons in this book?
- 2 What triangle-shaped things are in the book?
- 3 Which shape begins with a 'r'?

Support for less confident readers

It may be helpful to remind children of the shapes before reading the book, by bringing in different-shaped objects for them to identify.

Extension for more confident readers

Children could make their own mini shape book by drawing and labelling pictures of different-shaped objects from around the classroom.