

## Make a shape picture – Teaching ideas

Children read and follow simple instructions to make a picture using basic 2D shapes: circles, triangles, rectangles, and squares.

The activity supports children's development in both literacy and mathematics and is suitable for group or independent work in either subject area.

### The resource includes:

**Instructions** that can be displayed on the whiteboard, or printed and laminated for use by a group, or distributed to individuals.

Depending on children's reading development, you may wish to provide adult support with reading.

**A recount template** that individual children can use to report what they did and what they made. A short list of sight words incorporated in the text can be used as formative assessment.

**Shapes:** A page of shapes is included. It is suitable for printing on A4 or A3 paper.

Suggestions for use:

- Print on coloured paper and distribute to individual children who select, cut, place, and paste the shapes to create a picture on paper of a different colour.
- Print a template and use it to cut multiple pages of different colours. Provide these cut shapes for children to choose from when making their pictures.

Suggest children add detail to their pictures to make them more interesting.

The *My shape picture* page may be used if desired. However a plain piece of paper will do and reduce printing costs.

### Note:

2D shapes are flat shapes. They have height and width, but not depth. They can be seen and touched, but not picked up. 3D shapes are often incorrectly referred to as 2D shapes; for example, attribute blocks. The faces of attribute blocks are 2D shapes, but the blocks themselves are 3D objects. To avoid children forming misconceptions, it is important to discuss this with them and use language appropriately.

A simple way to show the difference between 2D and 3D shapes is to make prints of 2D shapes using the faces of 3D shapes.

Rectangles are shapes with four straight sides and four right angles. Squares are a special kind of rectangle with four sides of equal length. Rectangles that have two longer and two shorter sides are oblong rectangles. While squares and rectangles are presented as different shapes in this resource, as is common, it is important for children's understanding to explain that squares are a special type of rectangle.

### Extension idea

#### ***Guess the shapes***

Provide children with a set of attribute blocks.

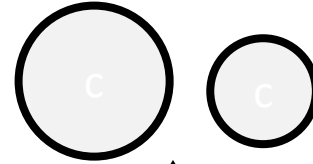
Invite children to:

1. place the blocks on a sheet of A4 paper
2. make a picture of an object using the blocks
3. carefully trace around the outline of the object
4. remove the blocks
5. give the outline to a friend to form using the blocks.

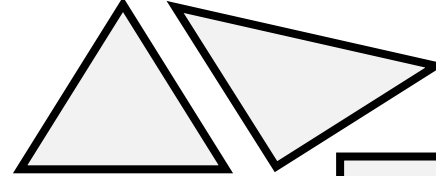
This resource supports use of the interactive *Shape it up – Exploring 2D shapes*.

# Make a shape picture

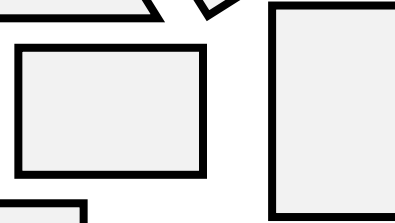
1. Put on some circles.



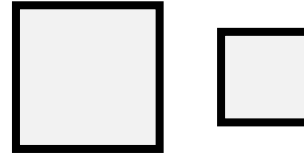
2. Put on some triangles.



3. Put on some rectangles.

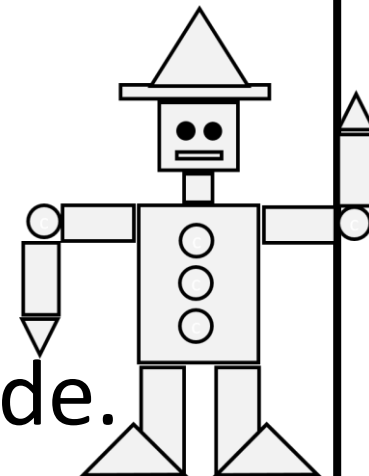


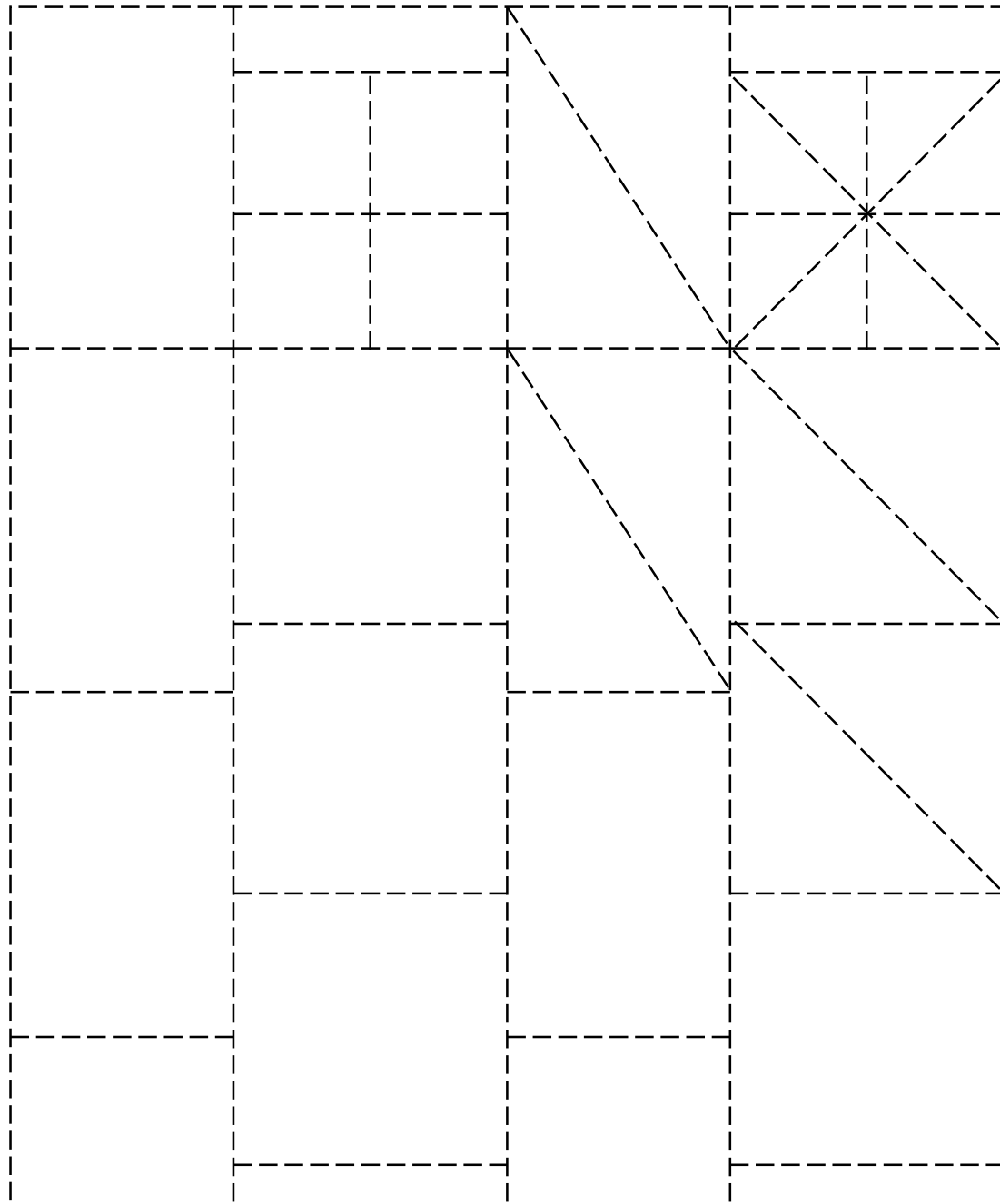
4. Put on some squares.



5. Add detail to make your picture interesting.

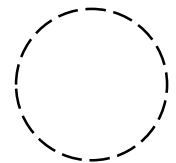
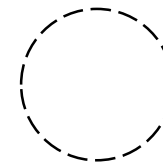
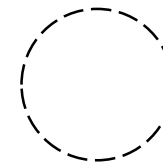
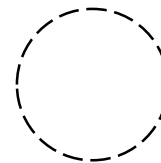
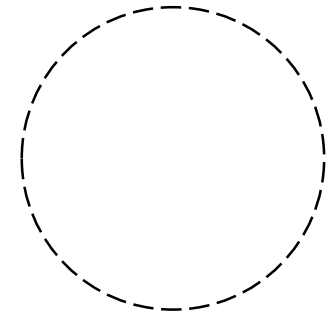
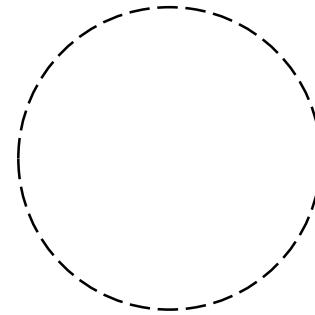
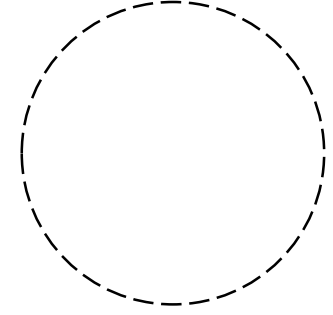
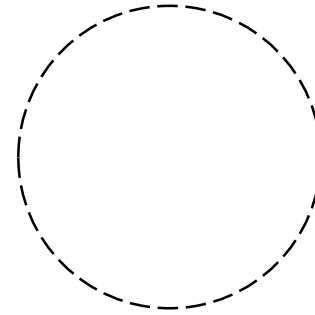
6. Write a sentence to tell what you made.





## My shapes

1. Think about the picture you will make.
2. Cut out the shapes you need.
3. Arrange them on your paper.
4. Glue them in place.



# My shape picture

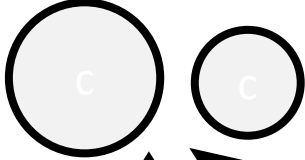
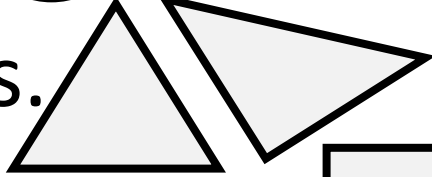
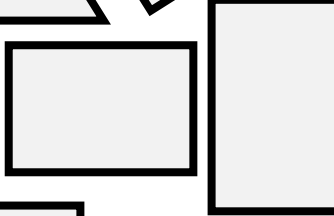
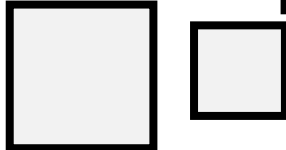
Name:

Date:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## What did you do?

1. I put on some circles. 
2. I put on some triangles. 
3. I put on some rectangles. 
4. I put on some squares. 

## What did you make?

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Can you read  
these words?

**some**

**on**

**I**

**put**

**you**

**what**

**do**

**made**