

Ship Shapes

by Stella Blackstone

Minimal text paired with colorful, eye-catching artwork make this a great resource for learning about shapes.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *The illustrator of this book used a pretty patchwork pattern for the ocean. Let's take a look.* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder where all those ships are going?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and study the pictures. There are many different shapes everywhere!

Rare Words in *Ship Shapes*

- submarine: a boat built to operate and travel for long period of time under water
- gleams: to shine, flash or flicker brightly
- voyage: a long journey by sea

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What objects can you think of that are shaped like a triangle?
- What is the difference between a square and a rectangle?
- What objects can you think of that are shaped like a diamond?
- Do you remember what shape was on the very end of the sea monster's tail?
- What shape was the submarine? Do you think a submarine goes fast or slow?
- Let's look around the room and see if we can find an object shaped like a crescent.

Do

Shape Collage

Make a supply of different-colored paper shapes to match those in *Ship Shapes* (square, circle, triangle, star, rectangle, semi-circle, diamond, crescent and oval). Provide glue and paper for the children to create a collage from the shapes.

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