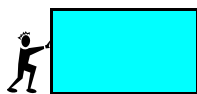
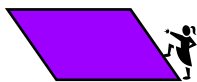


T/E Primary K-2 Mathematics Newsletter

February/March 2012



All about Shapes!

Children enter elementary school knowing many basic concepts of shapes and space. These concepts begin to form the foundation for geometric knowledge and spatial reasoning. The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics states it is important to allow children the opportunity to explore different geometric and special properties, as “geometry enables us to describe, analyze, and understand our physical world.”

Below are some fun ways to explore geometry with your child!

- **Circle Puzzles-** Trace a large circle on construction paper and cut it out. Then cut it into 3-6 pieces. Use these pieces as a puzzle for your child to put back together.
- **Snowflakes-** Fold up a piece of square paper and cut out different shapes. When you unfold the snowflake, look for all the shapes and lines of symmetry.
- **Nature Walk-** Look for different shapes, patterns, and symmetry in nature and your surroundings. You can bring a camera to document what you find.



Suggested Geometry Books

Grandfather Tang's Story by Ann Tompert

The Greedy Triangle by Marilyn Burns

Icky Bug Shapes by Jerry Pallotta

Pigs on the Ball: Fun with Math and Sports
by Amy Axelrod

The Shapes Game by Paul Rogers

The Shape of Me and Other Stuff by Dr. Seuss



Suggested Geometry Websites

Tangram Game

<http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/math-games/tanagram-game/>

Geometry Games

<http://www.math-play.com/Geometry-Math-Games.html>

National Library of Virtual Manipulatives

http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/category_g_1_t_3.html