

The Shape of Things

PreK

Materials: A scene of the playground, access to individual shapes (cutouts), papers, pencils, color crayons, markers

Discussion on the rug: Students have sets of some cut-out shapes in front of them. Teacher holds up the playground scene. **“Here is a picture of a playground. What do you notice about the playground? What else do you notice about it?”** Teacher continues to ask children to notice different shapes in the play area. The teacher asks the students to find a shape among the ones cut out that is also in the picture. She asks the students to describe the shape. **“How can you tell the difference between that shape and another shape? Who knows the name of the shape?”**

In small groups: Each group has a playground scene, crayons, pencils or makers, and paper. Teacher asks the students to find all the shapes in the picture. **“Draw a picture of the shape you found. Where is the shape in the picture? What is the name of the shape? How do you know that shape? Describe its parts.”**

At the end of the investigation: Students either discuss or dictate a response to these summary questions. **“Pick a shape in the playground. Draw a picture of the shape you found. Where is the shape in the picture? What is the name of the shape? How do you know that shape? Describe its parts.”**

A Playground Scene



