



Art Concepts for Kids: **SHAPE & FORM!**

Our online art class explores “shape” and “form” .

Shapes are spaces that are created when a line reconnects with itself.
Forms are three dimensional and they have length, width and depth.

This sweet intro song teaches kids all about shape!

Scratch Garden Value Song (all ages)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=coZfbTlzS5I>

Another great shape jam!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hFTUk8XqEc>

Cookie Monster eats his shapes!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qfNaIVrdOw&list=PLWrCWNvzT_lpGOvVQCdt7CXLqgL9-xpZj&index=10&t=0s

Now for the activities!! Click on the links in the descriptions below for the step by step details.

Ages 2-4

Shape Match

<https://busytoddler.com/2017/01/giant-shape-match-activity/>

Shapes are an easy art concept for the littles. Lots of their environment gives play and art opportunities to learn about shape. This Matching activity involves tracing the outside shape of blocks and having littles match the block to the outline. It can be enhanced by letting your little ones color the shapes emphasizing inside and outside the shape lines.

Block Print Shapes

<https://thepinterestedparent.com/2017/08/paul-kee-inspired-block-printing/>

Printing is a great technique for young kids to learn. The motion is like stamping so you teach little ones to press and pull rather than rub or paint. This project requires washable paint and paper and block that are not natural wood (which would stain) you want blocks that are painted or sealed. Kids can look at Paul Klee art for inspiration in stacking their shapes into buildings, or they can chose their own design☺

Ages 4-6

Lois Ehlert Shape Animals

<http://www.momto2poshlildivas.com/2012/09/exploring-shapes-and-colors-with-color.html>

This great project allows kids to play with shapes to make animals in the style of the artist Lois Ehlert. If you don't have her books at home, you can watch a YouTube read aloud to connect with her artistic style. All you need for this is scissors, colored construction paper, and a glue stick. These designs are graphic and really fun!

Shape Garland

<https://nurtureshapestore.co.uk/shape-garland>

Got a bunch of old kid art and paintings lying around? This is a fun way to reimagine 2 dimensional art in a 3 dimensional form. These mobiles are made by cutting out a variety of geometric shapes on artsy paper and using double sided tape and string to give them movement and life. So pretty!

Kindergarten Shapes

<https://cassiestephens.blogspot.com/search?q=shape>

Cassie is a very strong art teacher with lots of great ideas. The beauty of this project is she helps kids learn about painting strategies, how to move your hand and keep your paints clean. These shape paintings are vivid and beautiful. They help little ones practice control.

Ages 5-8

Shape Alligators

<http://artolazzi.blogspot.com/2015/12/shape-alligators.html>

I love the way this activity teaches the difference between free form shapes and geometric shapes. The alligators' forms are more organic, while their scale pattern is geometric. Sharpie, watercolor and paper will do the trick for this one!

Shapes with Lines

<http://anniesartroom.weebly.com/elementary-art/kindergarten-shapeline-study>

This is a simple one for littles, but I love how the step by step instructions teach how to fold paper and cut it out to create symmetrical shapes. The addition of the repeated lines teaches

about pattern and enhances the composition. Colored paper, art paper, scissors, glue and markers for this one.

Architecture

<https://kinderart.com/art-lessons/drawing/architecture-shape-collage/>

Architecture may be an art form that children don't notice very often. This is a great project to do after visiting a new city or taking a walk in a downtown area. Encourage kids to notice the buildings and structures around them. What shapes do they see? At home kids can use colored paper, scissors and glue to create their own shape city scape.

Abstract Art

<http://anniesartroom.weebly.com/elementary-art/category/1st-grade>

Abstract art is messy and fun. This one requires layers of shapes and lines and is an opportunity to experiment with organic shapes as well as geometric ones. Help kids learn by naming the shapes they have created and varying them. Smocks and washable paint are a must!

3D Dinosaurs

<http://useyourcolouredpencils.blogspot.com/2011/09/cardboard-dinosaur-sculptures.html>

Shapes come to life with this sculpture project. Here kids can create their own unique dino shape out of card stock or a thicker paper and then paint their creature and add designs to give them texture. The folded legs help them to stand up and roar!

Geometric Robots

<http://mcartroom.blogspot.com/2014/09/geometric-robots-art-lesson.html>

Simple and very cute. Robots have lots of potential for teaching basic geometric shapes and the way they can be used to create a character. Requires scissors, construction paper and glues sticks for this one. Kids can look at the tutorial for ideas and inspiration on how to make their dream robot.

Paper Bag Monster Mask

<https://minimadthings.com/blogs/news/monster-masks>

Eek a monster! Very simple supplies needed for these cute monster masks. Construction paper, scissors and glue will do for the basic form, but feel free to experiment with other art scraps and see what spooky creature your kids come up with.

Ages 7-10

Paper sculptures

<http://www.pinkstripeysocks.com/2015/05/calder-inspired-sculptures-kids-art-project.html>

Inspired by the sculpture artist Alexander Calder, these cool modern designs are a bit like origami. Follow the steps to cut the paper and use the fold technique to give it form. These sculptures help to teach the difference between a shape and a form.

Cake

<http://arteascuola.com/2014/01/the-cakes-inspired-by-wayne-thiebaud/>

This Wayne Thiebaud inspired art lesson combines art with science and math. This is a delicious way to teach about 3 dimensional forms and use shadow, tone and shapes to create an illusion of depth. Kids will love the magic trick of 3 dimensionality. Paper, pencil and pastels will work for this lesson.

Clay beads

<https://www.redtedart.com/air-dry-clay-projects-kids/>

Any kind of clay for sculpting will help children experiment with form. This site offers many choices. I've found that clay beads are a fun way to make art that is decorative and a part of a traditional decorative art history. Air dry clay, a pointed object for poking and paints to decorate work for this or colored clay such as "fimo" works as well.

Great simple and easy to follow origami tutorials can be found here!

<https://www.artforkidshub.com/origami/>

This brings us to the end of the *Art is for Everyone: Art Concept for Kids* series offered by Student Parent Programs. We hope you and your young artists were able to try out some of these projects and learn a thing or two about color, value, line, texture, shape and form.

Art deepens children's ability to see, observe and connect with the world. It's essential to education and so much fun! Thanks for checking it out!