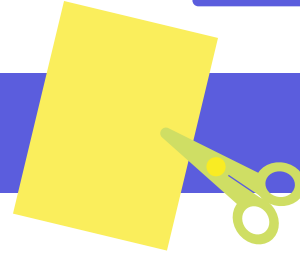




Extended Learning for Educators

SHAPES IN SPACE



Purpose

To introduce and reinforce the spatial relationships children will encounter while playing in the RelationShapes™ app

Learning Goals

- Create and analyze shape combinations using a variety of spatial relationships: apart, tangent, overlapping, inside, concentric
- Strengthen visual-spatial processing skills, including perceiving objects in the correct location, size, and orientation

What You Need

- Construction paper in a variety of colors
- Shape cutters for circles, squares, and triangles (e.g., cookie cutters, cups, saucers, small box lids, plastic shapes, anything you can find!)
- Play dough or modeling clay

- Step 1** Cut out a variety of shapes with children. Use construction paper, play dough, modeling clay, shape stamps, or sheet protectors to draw and cut out shapes. Aim for many sizes, colors, and proportions.
- Step 2** Look at children's shape pictures together in the RelationShapes gallery. Encourage children to tell you about their Picture It creations.
- Step 3** Have children recreate the spatial relationships in their pictures by using the physical cutout shapes. Help them copy if needed.
- Step 4** Point out the various spatial relationships you observe. For example, *"Look! These shapes are apart. They never touch!"* *"Now these shapes are touching."* *"These shapes overlap with one another."* *"These shapes are inside one another."*
- Step 5** Compare children's Picture It creations with their new designs. Identify the on-screen shapes. Talk about how they look the same or different from the physical shapes.

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW!

- Challenge children to see who can create designs with the cutout shapes the fastest! Take turns calling out the number of shapes and the spatial relationship (e.g., *"Three shapes – two touching and one inside!"* or *"Two shapes overlapping!"*)
- Have children play with the life-size shapes and encourage them to make a variety of spatial relationships.
- Call out a specific relationship (e.g., *"Overlapping!"*) and see if children can recreate it with the life-size shapes.