

Shape Hide and Seek

Introduction: Students in the first grade are expected to identify circles, triangles, and rectangles (including squares). This activity gives students a chance to practice this skill outside while being physically active. The students will enjoy this game of hide and seek immensely.

Grade Level and Subject: 1st Grade Math and P.E.

TEKS: Math – 6B
P.E. – 1B, 3A, 7A, 7B

Materials: Three large boxes, colors, several big and small balls (enough so that every child can find 2 of them), several large and small boxes (enough so that every child can find 2 of them), several large and small cones (enough so that every child can find 2 of them), a tally sheet showing the children's names and the different shapes being found

Activity: Before beginning the activity, the teacher should begin collecting the balls, boxes, and cones needed for the activity. He or she should notify the parents of the children and ask for donations of any of these items. It might take a few weeks to get the materials needed, so the teacher should plan accordingly.

Once all of the materials have been collected, the teacher should have a lesson on circles, triangles, and rectangles (including squares). After having the students practice drawing the different shapes, the teacher will bring out the 3 large boxes listed in the materials items. The students will decorate these boxes. One box will be decorated with circles; one box will be decorated with triangles, and the third box will be decorated with rectangles and squares.

On the day of the activity, the teacher will need to take the other materials and “hide” them on the playground. A teacher assistant or parent volunteer might provide help with this task. The 3 large, decorated boxes should be placed on the concrete portion of the playground and should be easily accessible by all children.

The children will be taken to the playground. They will sit quietly and listen as the teacher gives them directions. He or she will tell them that they are to each find 2 circles (balls), 2 triangles (cones), and 2 rectangles/squares (boxes). Once they find one of these items, they are to run (or hop, skip, gallop, walk backwards, etc.) and place the item in the appropriate box. The teacher will have a tally sheet so that he or she can keep up with which child has found which shape. The child will then go back out on the playground and find another shape. Once a child has found all of his or her shapes, he or she may sit and watch the other children search for their shapes. After all of the children have found their shapes, the teacher will check each box and discuss the shapes with the children. The activity will then be concluded. (The teacher might want some parent volunteers or teacher assistants to help with this activity.)

Evaluation: The teacher will assist students, if necessary, when placing the objects into the boxes. He or she will monitor the placement of the shapes to determine if students need additional instruction.



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