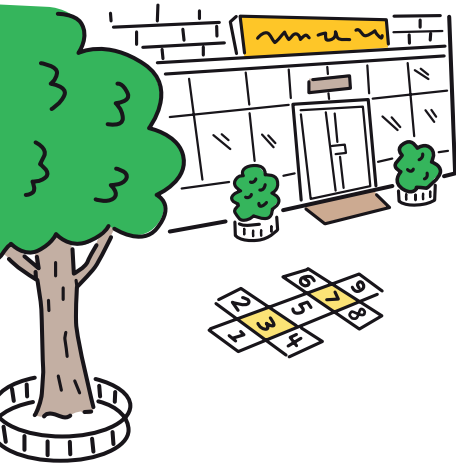
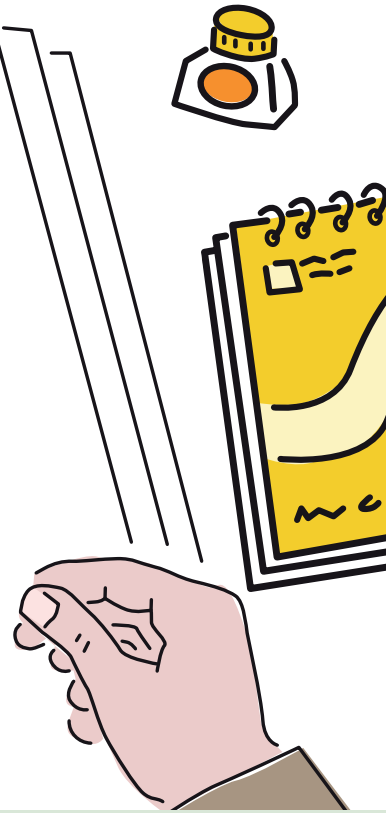
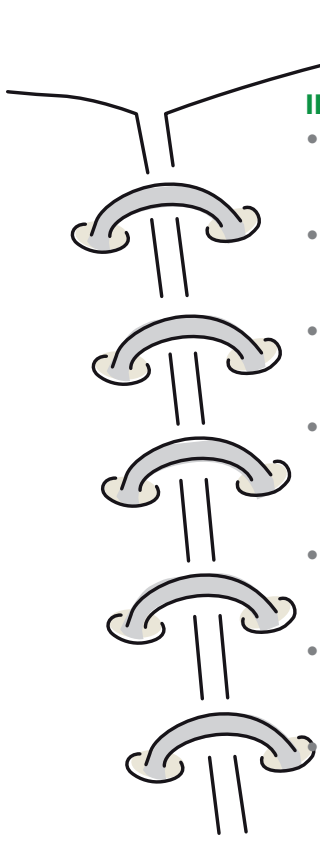


## Shape and space: Shape – Suggestions for the learning environment

### IDEAS FOR THE CLASSROOM

- Hang posters or create displays that feature different shapes, their names, and properties. Include examples of real-world objects that represent each shape to help children make connections, and showcase children's work related to shapes.
  - Provide a variety of shape manipulatives and tools for hands-on exploration, such as pattern blocks, tangrams, geometric solids, and shape puzzles. Allow children to freely explore these.
  - Create sensory bins filled with materials such as rice, sand, or foam shapes. Hide 3-D shapes within the sensory materials and encourage children to dig and explore to find them. Use this activity to reinforce shape recognition and vocabulary.
  - Set up shape sorting stations with baskets or containers labelled with different shapes. Provide a variety of objects or picture cards for children to sort based on their shapes or properties. Encourage them to explain their sorting criteria to classmates.
  - Use interactive whiteboard software or apps to engage children in shape-related games, quizzes, and activities. Incorporate virtual manipulatives and shape drawing tools to enhance learning experiences.
  - Create a cosy reading corner with a collection of picture books and storybooks that feature shapes as themes or characters. Encourage children to explore these books independently or during story time sessions.
- Encourage children to create their own shape displays or models using art materials and classroom supplies. Display their creations around the classroom to showcase their understanding of shapes and creativity.



### IDEAS OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

- Promote shape activities in the wider school community, e.g., *shape-themed assemblies* or *maths competitions focused on shapes*, *invite children to participate in a shape parade where they dress up as their favourite shapes or geometric characters*.
- Curate an art exhibition featuring children's artwork inspired by shapes and geometry and the work of artists such as Piet Mondrian. Display paintings, drawings, sculptures, and other artworks created by children during art classes or as part of shape-themed projects. Invite parents and community members to attend the exhibition and celebrate children's creativity.
- Invite a guest to school who works with shape and shape properties within their profession. An architect, an interior designer, a builder, a civil engineer, a carpenter, garden designer, an artist etc.
- Organise a shape photography competition at school where children take pictures of the shapes that exist in various locations and features around their school environment. They may be able to capture a photo where there is a multitude of different shapes and create a poster where shape questions or 'I spy' can be attached.

