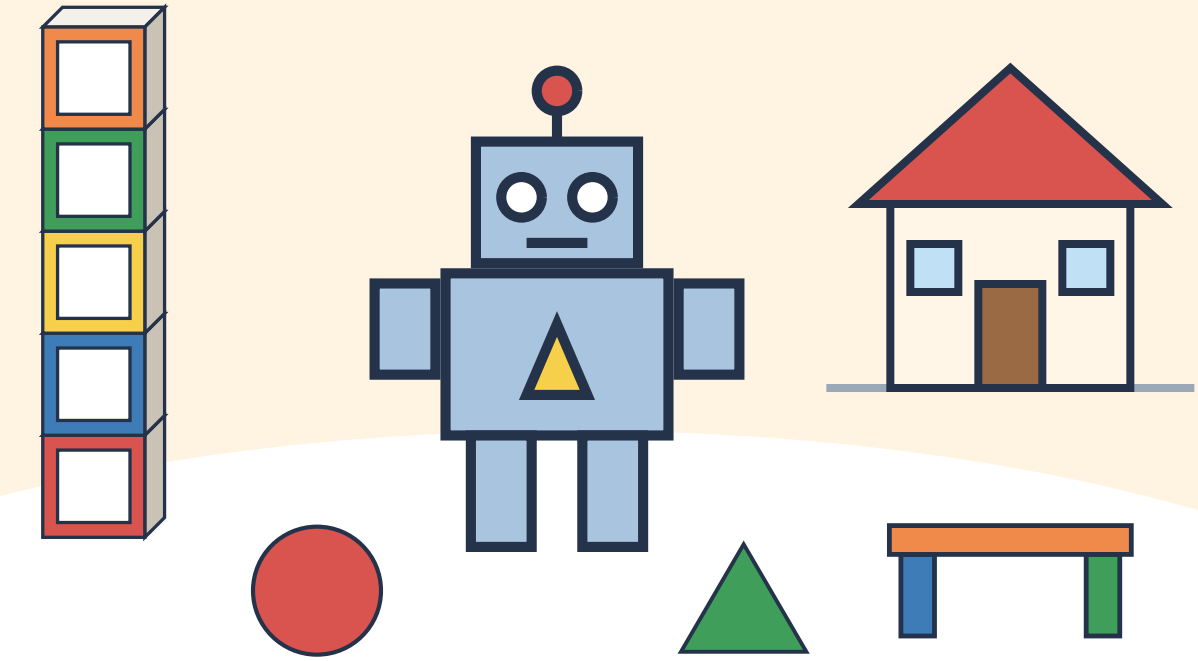
A ONE-WEEK LEARNING PACK FOR AGES 3–5

Shapes & Builders Week

5 days of circle time, centers, art, and movement for home daycares and small child care programs



Counting 1–10 · Shape names · Sides & corners · Color + ink-saver

28 pages · US Letter · Full color · © 2026 Jackson Miller

EDUCATOR GUIDE

Welcome, How to Use & Contents

Shapes & Builders Week is a complete five-day plan for mixed groups of children ages 3 to 5. Children count paper blocks, name circles, squares, triangles, rectangles, ovals, and diamonds, find shapes in everyday things, compare taller, wider, and more sides, put the steps of building a house in order, sort round things from things with corners, hear the first sounds /kw/ and /z/, and build a paper robot with shapes. No blocks or building sets are required.

A typical day

- **Circle time**, 10–15 min: a short read-aloud story and talk prompts
- **Math center**, 10–15 min: hands-on counting, comparing, or sorting
- **Literacy center**, 10 min: oral vocabulary and sound games
- **Art & fine motor**, 15–20 min: low-cost paper projects
- **Movement**, 5 min: a short movement game with seated options

Mixed ages

Each day plan has a **Simpler** idea (often right for younger 3s) and an **Extension** (often right for older 4s and 5s). Choose by what each child is ready for, not by age alone. Printed pages are tools for play and talk, not tests.

Printing

Print on US Letter paper at **100% / Actual size**. The color and ink-saver files have the same pages and page numbers. Send the family letter (p. 27) home on Day 1.

What is inside

- 5 educator day plans and a week-at-a-glance
- 5 original read-aloud stories + 1 counting rhyme
- 12 vocabulary cards · 10 number cards · 6 movement cards
- Counting mat, 16 block counters, shape match
- Compare page, house-building cards, 2 sorts
- Robot builder, block corner count, tracing, letter, keys

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EDUCATOR GUIDE

Week at a Glance

Pick and choose; every activity is optional



	DAY 1 Blocks and Counting	DAY 2 Shapes All Around	DAY 3 Taller, Wider, More Sides	DAY 4 Let's Build a House	DAY 5 Shape Robots
Words	block, stack, tower, count, tall, steady	circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oval, diamond	taller, shorter, wider, sides, corners, compare	plan, walls, roof, door, first, last	round, corner, edge, robot, build, sort
Circle time	Mia's Block Tower + counting rhyme	Shape Spotters	Two Towers and a Bridge	Building Nana's House	Robo Finds a Friend
Math	Blocks on the Shelf	Shape Match	Compare Page	Let's Build a House	Round or Has Corners?
Literacy	Building Words	Shape Riddles	Compare Talk	Qq and Zz Sound Sort	Robot Talk
Art & fine motor	Paper Block Picture	Shape Monster	Bridge Collage	Draw a Plan	Robot Shape Builder
Movement	Square Steps	Make a Circle	Bridge Pose	Triangle Roof	Robot Walk
Big idea	Counting 1–5; counting again after a change	Naming shapes; finding shapes in everyday things	Comparing height and width; counting sides and corners	Ordering 4 steps; first sounds /kw/ and /z/	Sorting round and cornered; building with shapes; counting a collection

Before the week starts

- Read the day plans (pp. 6–10) and stories (pp. 11–12). Skim the safety notes (p. 5).
- Print and cut using the prep list (p. 4). Adults pre-cut for children not yet using scissors.
- Copy the family letter (p. 27) for each family and fill in your program name.
- Cut paper squares and strips for Days 1 and 3. Find 2 boxes or books of different sizes.

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EDUCATOR GUIDE

Educator plan

Day 1: Blocks and Counting

Today's words: block · stack · tower · count · tall · steady

Prep today: Cut the number cards (p. 15) and 16 block counters per child at the center (p. 17). Print the mat (p. 16). Paper squares for art.

Circle time

10–15 min

- Read **Mia's Block Tower** (p. 11).
- Ask: "How many blocks did Mia stack? Were they all still there after the tower fell?"
- Show the **block**, **tower**, and **bridge** cards (p. 14). Children show "tall" and "wide" with their arms.
- Say **Five Blocks High** (p. 12), lifting one hand a little higher for each block.
- Transition: children walk "steady as a tower" to a center.

Math: Blocks on the Shelf

Pages 15, 16, 17

1. Child picks a number card 1–5.
2. Touch and count the blocks on the card, one touch for each.
3. Place the same number of paper blocks in the top row of the mat, starting at the left.
4. Mix them up, then count again. "Still five!"

Literacy: Building Words

Vocabulary cards, p. 14

Children describe a building with 2 words: "tall tower," "long bridge." Ask: "What would you build with blocks?" Write their words on a card.

Movement: Square Steps

Card on p. 26

Walk in a square: 4 steps forward, turn; 4 steps, turn; 4 steps, turn; 4 steps, turn. Back where you started!

Art: Paper Block Picture

Paper squares and rectangles, glue stick

Children glue paper squares into a tower or a wall. Count the pieces together. Some children will make patterns; name them.

Simpler

emerging / younger 3s

Use cards 1–3 only. Count aloud while the child touches each block.

Extension

ready / older 4s & 5s

Use cards 6–10 and fill both rows of the mat. Ask: "How many more to make 10?"

Look for

informal notes

One touch for each object. Knows the number stays the same when objects move. Says how many.

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CIRCLE TIME

Read slowly; pause for children to predict and act it out

Read-Aloud Stories, Days 1–3

Day 1: Mia's Block Tower

original story, about 1–2 min

Mia had a basket of blocks. "I am going to build the tallest tower in the world," she told her cat, Pepper.

She set down one block. Then two. Then three. "One, two, three," she counted. The tower stood straight and tall.

Four blocks. Five blocks. The tower began to wobble. "Steady," whispered Mia. She held her breath.

Pepper swished her tail. Bump! Down came the blocks, all over the rug. "Oh, Pepper!" Mia laughed.

Mia counted the blocks on the floor: "One, two, three, four, five. All here!" Then she began again, one block at a time.



Pause & ask: *How many blocks did Mia stack? What made the tower fall?*

Day 2: Shape Spotters

original story, about 1–2 min

Leo and his grandma played a game called Shape Spotters. "Look for shapes everywhere," said Grandma.

In the kitchen, Leo spotted the round clock. "A circle!" By the door, he found a box. "A square box!"

In the park, they saw a tent with a pointy top. "A triangle!" said Grandma. A kite flew high. "And a diamond!" said Leo.

On the bench, a girl was reading a book. "Rectangle," whispered Leo. At home, Grandma held up an egg. "Oval!"

"Six shapes!" said Leo, counting on his fingers. "Shapes are hiding everywhere," said Grandma. "You just have to look."



Pause & ask: *What shape was the clock? Where did Leo find a triangle?*

Day 3: Two Towers and a Bridge

original story, about 1–2 min

Zara and Quinn were building in the block corner. Zara built a tower with three blocks. Quinn built one with five.

"Mine is taller," said Quinn. They stood side by side to check. Quinn's tower reached higher.

"Let's make a bridge between them," said Zara. She laid a long, flat block across the top. It was too short and fell.

Quinn found a wider block. It reached all the way across! "Now the toy car can drive over," he said.

They counted the sides of the bridge block: one, two, three, four. "A rectangle bridge," said Zara. "Our best building yet."



Pause & ask: *Which tower was taller? Why did the first bridge fall?*

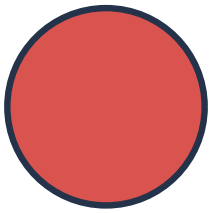
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MATH

Find the thing with the same shape. Lay the pairs side by side.

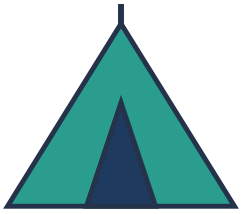
Shapes All Around: Shape Match





circle

A

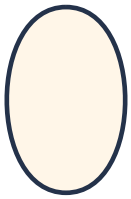


B



square

C

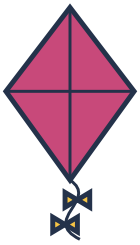


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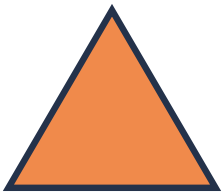


rectangle

E

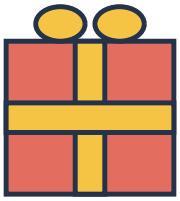


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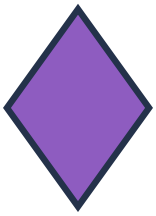


triangle

G



H

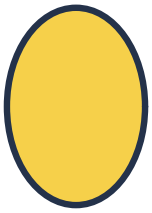


diamond

I



J



oval

K



L

✂ *Cut on the dashed lines. Small letters are for the answer key only.*

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