

## **Lesson Plan Chapter 7**

In practice

The following lesson plan and evaluation describe a lesson taught to a group of pupils who have some understanding of the language of shape. I was wanting them to develop their language in order to be able to identify and describe the properties of shapes in greater detail. I was also wanting them to become increasingly sophisticated in their use of technical vocabulary. The particular focus for this lesson was developing skills in visualising and naming 2D shapes and describing their properties. I used the program 'What's Hiding?' to explore the children's knowledge of properties of the shapes as it was the first time I had worked with this particular group on this area. The open questions I could ask meant that I was able to see what their current understandings were and for me to model more sophisticated vocabulary in my 'interpretation' of their answers. The 'What's Hiding' program is available on companion website.

**Topic:** Exploring 2D shapes

**Age Group:** lower primary

Objectives: Visualise and name common 2D shapes and describe their properties	
Key vocabulary: 2D Property Circle Triangle Square Rectangle	Context: This is my first lesson with this group of pupils exploring their understanding of shape. My aim was to discover the pupils' prior knowledge to support me in developing their skills
Resources Collection of miscellaneous shapes – regular and irregular mini whiteboards	Starter activity: Using the 'What's Hiding?' program to assess the pupils' current knowledge of shape properties and shape names. I place the pupils with their 'talk partners' and as I gradually revealed each shape I asked the talk partner to discuss what the shape might be. When I asked a pair for their response they had to justify their guess by describing a property of the shape they were guessing. On each occasion we explored all possible shapes as well as shapes that it couldn't be. For example, 'that cannot be a square because squares don't have curved lines', 'or that can't be a rectangle as that isn't a right angle'

Main activity	Teacher	Pupil activity
Group activity: Children operating above expected levels	<p>With the group sitting in a circle with a range of shapes in the middle I asked one of the group to sort the shapes in any way they wanted. Others in the group have to guess the criteria that are being used to sort the shapes. If they guess correctly they have the next go. They show they have guessed correctly by placing a new shape in the correct group</p> <p>Asking the pupils to sort the shapes in a number of different ways allows me to point out that there are many different properties that describe shapes. We can look at the number of sides, the properties of the angles, parallel and perpendicular lines and so on.</p>	<p>Sitting in a circle observing the sorting and deciding on possible criteria</p>
Group activity: Children operating at expected levels	<p>For this activity I decided it would be appropriate to use all attainment groups – this would allow those pupils with less experience to hear a wide range of the vocabulary of shape.</p> <p>The groups continued to play the game that had been introduced above until each person in the group had a turn at sorting the shapes. The next activity involved one of the group hiding a shape. They had to describe the shape so that the others in the group could draw it on their mini whiteboards</p>	
Group activity: Children operating below expected levels	<p>As I moved around the groups I made a note of the range of vocabulary that I heard being used. I was able to share this with the class at the end of the lesson and construct a vocabulary display that we referred to in future lessons.</p>	
<p>Plenary: On the whiteboard I sketched a square and an irregular quadrilateral with one right angle. In pairs the children had to say in what ways they were the same and in what ways they were different I then shared my list of vocabulary with the class and asked the group for an example of a shape with this property and an example of a shape which did not have this property</p>		