BUILDING BLOCKS CLIPBOARD DIRECTIONS

Day 1

Geometry: Shape Step

(*In Advance:* Create large shapes by making shapes on the floor with masking or colored tape, making chalk shapes outdoors, taping laminated paper shapes to the floor, or using a copier to enlarge Shape Sets from the Teacher's Resource Guide. Create enough rhombi for 5 friends to step on.)

Tell children to step on the rhombus only.

I am going to have five of our friends step on the shapes. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, can you step on a rhombus? Let's check to make sure our friends are stepping on the rhombuses (rhombi). How do we know it is a rhombus?

Geometry: Mr. Mix-Up Shapes

Today we are going to help Mr. Mix-Up with naming shapes! Remember, we need to stop Mr. Mix-Up when he makes a mistake.

Have Mr. Mix-Up start by confusing the names of a square and a rhombus.

How are their angles different? (Squares must have all right angles; rhombuses may have different angles.) Remember, all rhombuses and squares, which are a special kind of rhombus with all right angles, have four straight sides of equal length.

Repeat with a trapezoid, a hexagon, and any other shapes you would like children to practice.

Day 2

Numeracy:
Count and Move (Forward and Back)

Today we are going to count to 10. We are going to pretend we are a rocket ship blasting off from Earth.

Everyone starts in a crouched position, and slowly rises to a standing position while counting aloud to 10.

Now we are going to pretend we are a rocket ship coming back from space to Earth! We are going to start counting backward from the number 10.

While counting backward from 10, everyone slowly sinks back down to a crouched position.

Geometry: Guess My Rule

We are going to play a guessing game. I am going to sort shapes into two different piles, and I want you to think about why I am sorting them this way. Watch carefully as I sort.

Sort shapes, one at a time, until there are at least two shapes in each pile.

Hmm, I wonder where this shape goes. Can you point to where you think this shape goes? What do you think my sorting rule is?

Repeat with other shapes and new rules: Guess My Rule Sorting List A11.

Day 3

Geometry: Shape Step

(*In Advance:* Create large shapes by making shapes on the floor with masking or colored tape, making chalk shapes outdoors, taping laminated paper shapes to the floor, or using a copier to enlarge Shape Sets from the Teacher's Resource Guide. Create enough rhombi for 5 friends to step on.)

Tell children to step on the rhombus only.

I am going to have five friends step on the shapes. _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, can you step on a rhombus? Let's check to make sure our friends are stepping on the rhombuses (rhombi). How do we know it is a rhombus?

Numeracy: How Many Now?

We are going to play a game with counters and numbers.

Show the children three counters, count them together, and display the matching numeral card.

How many counters are there? Does this numeral card match? Watch. I am going to add one more counter. How many are there now? Let's count them all together. Does this numeral card match?

Repeat the process. Alternate adding and removing a counter and, eventually, doing the same with two counters.

Day 4

Numeracy: Count and Move (Forward and Back)

Today we are going to count to 10. We are going to pretend we are a rocket ship blasting off from Earth.

Everyone starts in a crouched position and slowly rises to a standing position while counting aloud to 10.

Now we are going to pretend we are a rocket ship coming back from space to Earth! We are going to start counting backward from the number 10.

While counting backward from 10, everyone slowly sinks back down to a crouched position.

Geometry: Guess My Rule

We are going to play a guessing game. I am going to sort shapes into two different piles, and I want you to think about why I am sorting them this way. Watch carefully as I sort.

Sort shapes, one at a time, until there are at least two shapes in each pile.

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Repeat with other shapes and new rules: Guess My Rule Sorting List A11.

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How are their angles different? (Squares must have all right angles; rhombuses may have different angles.) Remember all rhombuses and squares, which are a special kind of rhombus with all right angles, have four straight sides of equal length.

Repeat with a trapezoid, a hexagon, and any other shapes you would like children to practice.