

## WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:

organizing geometric shapes to create a collage

## WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

cut paper squares, circles, ovals, rectangles, triangles, semi-circles and "sticks" (long thin rectangles), diamonds, parallelograms, etc; paste; support paper 30 x 45.5 cm (12' x 18"); a damp sponge; <u>or</u> tempera paints; 12mm (1/2") stiff bristle brush; paper towels for wiping brush between colors; newspaper to cover work surface.

**NOTE TO PARENTS:** Look at neighborhood buildings to find squares, rectangles, semi-circles, and so on, naming each shape. Explain that these are mathematical shapes called <u>geometric</u> as opposed to organic or natural shapes. Name the paper shapes and recall similar shapes in the buildings. Talk about these geometric shapes in vehicles, furniture and in symbols on things like road signs. (deer crossing or steep grade)

Note that artists, such as Paul Klee, sometimes use combinations of these geometric shapes in their designs and paintings.

## A GEOMETRIC PICTURE



Paul Klee Cityscape with Yellow Windows

**GETTING STARTED:** Can you name some geometric shapes? Could you put some of these geometric shapes together to look like a house? a church with a steeple? How could you make a whole row of different buildings? a car? a train? a person?

1. Move some of the geometric shapes around on the support paper until you have made a picture of something. Do not paste anything down yet.

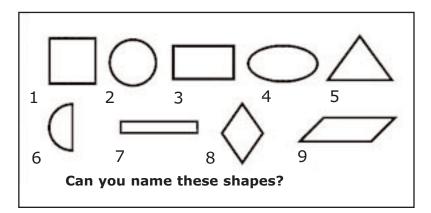
2. Make some more things out of



geometric shapes somewhere else on the paper. Move the shapes around to make a picture.

3. When you are happy with your picture, pick up one shape at a time. Put a tiny dab of paste on it and press it down in the place it came from. Work slowly and carefully. Wipe your fingers often on the damp sponge.

OR: Use tempera paints to make a geometric town. Draw the separate building shapes with pencil. Then fill in the colors with tempera paint. After the paint dries, you can add more geometric shapes to make windows. doors, chimneys, roofs, sidewalks and fences and any other details you wish to add.





Sven Age 5

1. square2.circle3. rectangle4.oval5. triangle6. half circle7. rectangle8. diamond9. parallelogram

**CLEAN UP:** Save the leftover paper shapes to make another picture or for another use. Wash up. Put away the rest of the materials.

**TALK ABOUT IT:** Say the names of the geometric shapes you used to make your picture. What shapes did you NOT use? Can you tell a story about your picture?

**MORE IDEAS:** After the picture is finished, add some details with crayons or felt pens.

**CONNECTIONS:** 1. What games are played around a circle, a square, a rectangle? How about groups of squares, circles, or rectangles.

2. Find some picture books about geometric shapes.