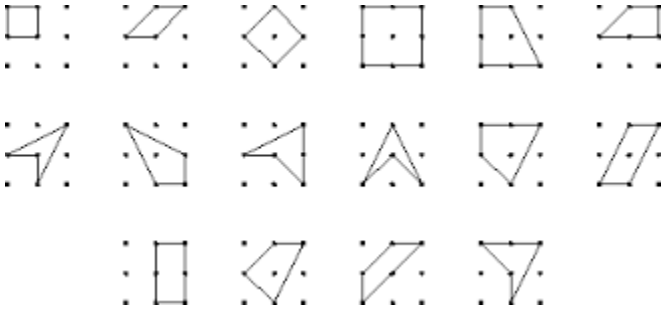
Family Letter
2nd Grade Geometry Concepts

Dear Parents,

Focus of the Unit
Geometry gives students ways to analyze our physical world. Building on what they learned in first grade (triangles, rectangles, squares, trapezoids, hexagons, circles, cubes, rectangular prisms, cones, spheres and cylinders) they will work with these additional shapes: quadrilaterals and pentagons. Another important concept explored during this unit is partitioning circles and rectangles into two, three, or four equal shares. Here's an overview of our standards in geometry:

- Identify, describe, draw and create 2-D shapes
- Explore the area of shapes, especially rectangles
- Divide circles and rectangles into 2, 3, or 4 equal parts.
- Use the vocabulary halves, thirds, fourths/quarters
- Explore parts of whole shapes that have the same area but not the same shape

Strategies that students will learn
During our geometry unit students will build and draw different shapes. One tool we will use is a geoboard. He/she will stretch rubber bands around pegs on a geoboard to create shapes with specific attributes. Here's an example of quadrilaterals on a geoboard:



Here's an example of splitting (partitioning) a rectangle into halves in three different ways.



Ideas for home support
At home you can go on a shape hunt in you home or neighborhood. Look for squares, circles, triangles, spheres, rectangular prisms (boxes, doors), etc. Talk about how the triangles (or other shapes) are the same and different. Look for shapes that repeat such as shapes on tiles, wall paper, floors, etc. Tangrams are shape puzzles that can be used to create thousands of

pictures. Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the tangram shapes. Cut them out and see how many shapes you and your child can make. When you look at a clock talk about half past the hour, quarter after the hour, quarter til the hour. There are also many great books to read about shapes. Listed below are a few that may be in our public library:
When a Line Bends...A Shape Begins by Rhonda Gowler Green
The Greedy Triangle by Marilyn Burns
Captain Invincible and the Space Shapes by Stuart J. Murphy
Grandfather Tang's Story by Ann Tompert
If You Were a Quadrilateral by Molly Blaisdell.

Thank you for serving as partners in your child's success as a mathematician!

<signature>

Tangram Pattern

