

# FAMILY MATH

## Construct Shapes

Dear Families,

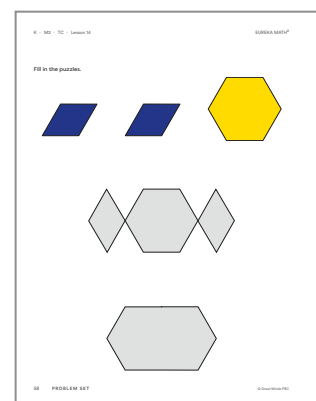
Your child is working to apply what they have learned about flat and solid shapes to create models of shapes by using materials such as clay and straws. The act of making shapes helps children understand the most important features of the shapes. They also discover how one shape can help build a different shape, and they explore how shapes can fit together like a puzzle.



*Students build models of 5-sided flat shapes with straws or craft sticks.*



*Students build models of solid shapes by using straws and clay.*



*Students create two new shapes by using 1 hexagon and 2 rhombuses.*

## At-Home Activities

### Activity Idea 1 Shape Builder

Invite your child to explore household materials to build a shape. Consider using toothpicks or building blocks for shapes with straight sides. Your child can use string or cooked spaghetti to explore shapes with curved sides. Consider asking, “What is the name of that shape? How do you know?”

For an extra challenge, give your child clues to build a specific shape. For example, “Here is the clue. The shape I’m thinking of has 4 sides and 4 corners. Can you build it?”

### Activity Idea 2 Make a Silly Face

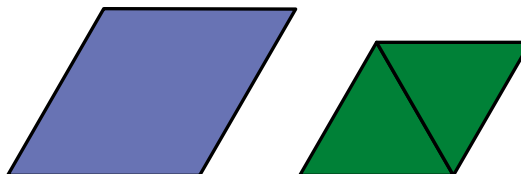
Use the empty pumpkin shapes to play this game. Start by drawing one shape at a time on the pumpkin from the choices at the top. Try to use as many different shapes as possible at least once. You can combine the shapes to make new ones. This isn’t meant to be a contest but an opportunity to have creative fun with your child.

## So Many Ways to Make a Flat Shape

Students put shapes together and try to see how many different ways they can make a new shape. This is an added challenge because the outline of the shape is shown and students have to manipulate the shapes while staying within the boundary of the new shape.

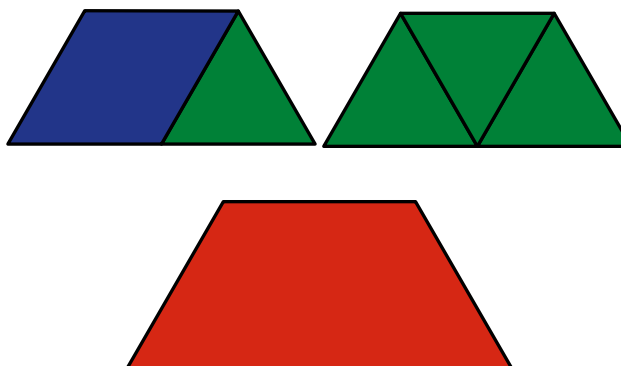
### RHOMBUS

2 triangles



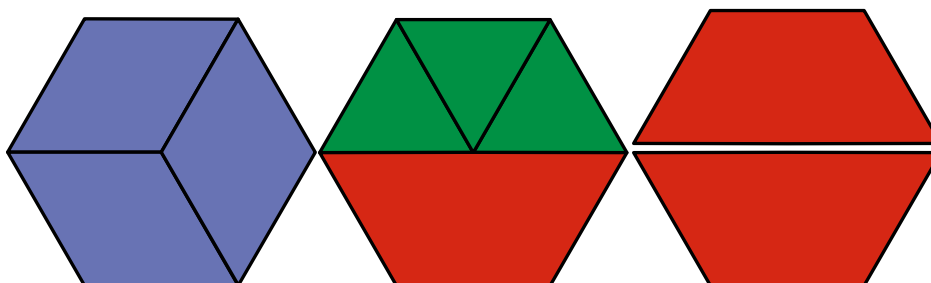
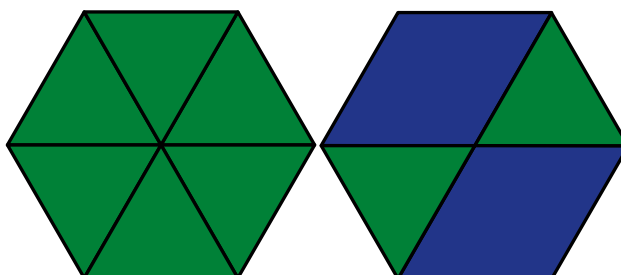
### TRAPEZOID

1 triangle and 1 rhombus  
3 triangles



### HEXAGON

2 triangles and 2 rhombuses  
6 triangles  
3 triangles and 1 trapezoid  
2 trapezoids  
3 rhombuses



## Activity Idea 2: Make a Silly Face

Use these shapes to draw a face on the pumpkins.

