MATH · PRE-K TO Y1

Color by Shape — 2D Shapes

Find the shape, color the shape

The shapes we're learning

Shape	Sides	Color it	Real-world example
Circle	0 (curved)	Red	Wheel, plate, sun
Square	4 (equal)	Blue	Window, picture frame
Triangle	3	Yellow	Pizza slice, mountain peak
Rectangle	4 (long)	Green	Door, book, phone
Oval	0 (curved)	Pink	Egg, athletics track
Hexagon	6	Orange	Honeycomb cell, soccer ball pattern
Star	5+ points	Purple	Christmas tree topper, sheriff's badge

Activity 1 — Find and color

On any blank shape-jumble worksheet (lots of free ones online), find each type of shape and color it the matching color. Children sometimes argue about whether something is a square or a rectangle (a square IS a special rectangle, but for primary purposes treat them separately). Encourage them to count the sides and check if all four are equal.

Activity 2 — Shapes around us scavenger hunt

Look around the room. Find one of each shape in real life. Color a small box for each shape on a record sheet, write what you found. e.g. CIRCLE — clock on the wall. SQUARE — window pane.

TRIANGLE — bunting. This helps children see that shapes aren't just maths — they're everywhere.

Activity 3 — Make a shape picture

Draw a picture using ONLY the shapes from the table. e.g. a house can be a square + triangle. A car can be a rectangle + two circles. A face can be a circle + two ovals + one triangle nose. Color each shape its matching color from the key. Children love this once they get the idea — it builds spatial reasoning AND shape recognition.

Activity 4 — Sort the shapes by color

Print a page with 20 mixed shapes scattered. Children color them by following the key — all circles red, all squares blue, etc. The result: a colorful sorting visual that they can stick on the wall.

Shape facts you can talk about

Why are honeycomb cells hexagons?	Hexagons fit together with no gaps and use the least wax. Bees are amazing engineers.
Why are wheels circles?	A circle rolls smoothly because every point on the edge is the same distance from the center.
Are all triangles the same?	No! Equilateral (all equal), isosceles (two equal), and scalene (none equal).
What's a square that's not also a rectangle?	All squares are rectangles. But not all rectangles are squares (only the ones with equal sides).