

# Skippyjon Jones

## Shape Up

by Judy Schachner

An interesting variation on the usual board books that introduce shapes. Companion titles: *Up & Down*, *Color Crazy*, and *1-2-3*.



## Read

### Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *This is a book about shapes. As I read, try and remember all the different shapes that Skippyjon is shaping up with.* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an “I wonder” statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder if this crazy kitty is exercising or dancing?

### During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out “rare words” (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

### Rare Words in *Skippyjon Jones Shape Up*

- salsa: a Latin American dance
- teeter: to move unsteadily and as if about to fall
- orbit: to move around an object

### After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Let's try and remember all the shapes...
- What was your favorite shape in this book?
- What object do you think of when you hear the word “orbit”?
- Can you think of another object that has a crescent shape? I'll give you a hint, it's yellow and you can eat it.
- How can you tell that the two rectangles are heavy?

## Do

### Missing Shapes!

Copy the attached Missing Shapes! printable so each child has their own sheet. Draw the other half of the missing shape!

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