

Shapes & Opposites

by Richard Scarry

In addition to shapes, this book explores lines, directions, sizes, amounts, and opposites.



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, *Who knows what the opposite of up is? Front? Noisy? Fast? Clean?* 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 that raccoon is a teacher?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations and ask questions. Spend extra time on amounts, sizes and directions giving examples that are familiar and part of their daily life. Opposites are especially fun for children and a great way to develop thinking skills. 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

Rare Words in *Shapes & Opposites*

- pennant: a small narrow triangular flag
- squiggly: wavy or curly
- submarine: a boat built to operate and travel for long period of time under water
- barge: a long, narrow flat-bottomed boat

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- Have each child examine their clothing for shapes.
- Discuss lines. Talk about the yellow and white lines found on the highway.
- Discuss directions. Talk about where things sit in the room (e.g., the phone sits on top of the desk, the chairs sit under the table, etc.).
- Which is bigger...a goat or a fish? A foot or a finger? A quarter or a penny?
- Ask the children to name opposites. Start with some obvious opposites (up/down, wet/dry, happy/sad, old/new, slow/fast) and then move to some less obvious opposites (rough/smooth, dark/light, right/left, clean/dirty, rich/poor, tall/short, shut/open).

Do

Color/Trace/Connect

Copy the attached Color/Trace/Connect printable so each child has their own sheet. Have fun coloring, tracing and connecting all the different shapes.

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