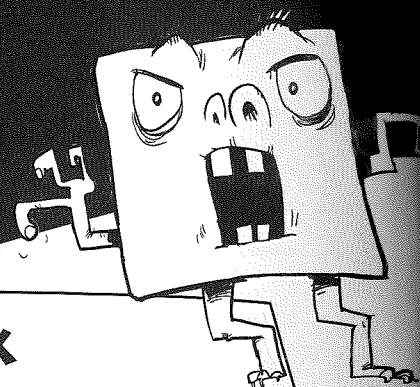


# Get in shape!

**APPROXIMATE TIME REQUIRED: Varies (dependent upon which task the pupils choose)**

**GROUPING: Individuals or pairs**



## THE TASK

To complete some tasks based on three shapes: a circle, a triangle and a square.

## INTRODUCING THE ACTIVITY

You could explain all the tasks at the start, ask pupils to do the one that appeals to them most or involve the whole class in one challenge at a time. You might find the following tips helpful:

Task 1. Whichever shape pupils choose, encourage them to try to include as many of that shape as they can.

Task 2. This can be quite a challenge! The thinner the pupil's spiral, the longer their 'string' will be.

Task 3. Pupils can try to think of as many square, triangle or circle-shaped things as they can or draw 'shape' versions of objects you often see out of a window e.g. a triangular tree, a circular building, etc.

Task 4. Encourage pupils to make their toy designs appealing to young children. Does the toy have a 'reward' for pushing, twisting or pulling?

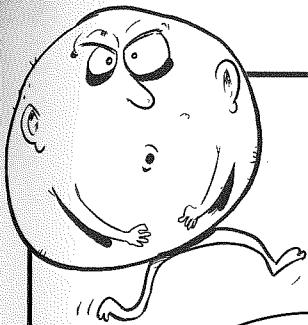
Task 5. You might allow pupils to add felt tip lines to their collage. See if other pupils can guess what each animal is.

Task 6. This activity is all about camouflage. Pupils will need one shape to take with them as they explore the classroom, trying to find places to hide it. You could allocate shapes or allow pupils to choose the one they think will be easiest to hide. To prevent pupils from just sticking a white shape on to a white background, you could ban any sticking on white surfaces. Pupils need to colour their shape to match its background. Pupils can then go 'shape spotting' for other pupils' shapes. You could tell pupils the number of camouflaged shapes to encourage them to look really hard.

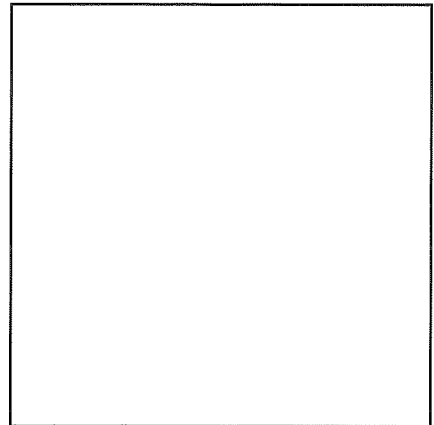
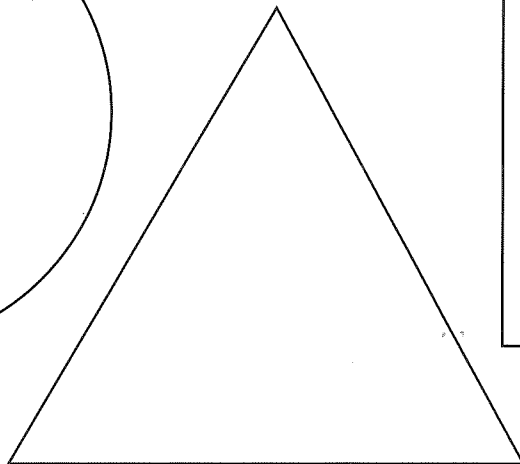
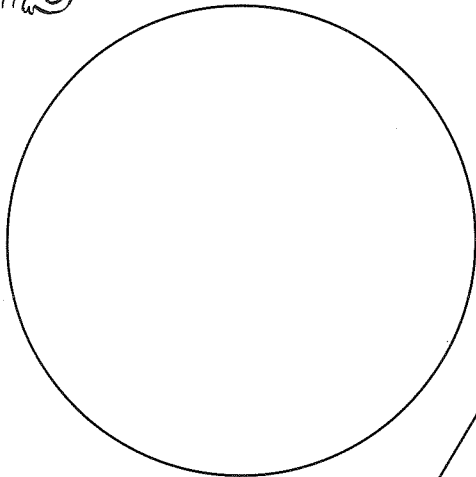
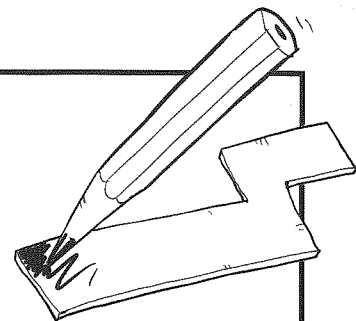
## EXTENSION

### Pupils could:

- Find as many circle, triangle and square shapes incorporated in objects in the room as they can.
- Use only triangles, squares and circles to make a collage of a person.
- Make up a game that involves circles, triangles and squares. Here are some ideas:
  - 1) Scatter equal numbers of triangles, circles and squares in a designated area. Split into three teams and allocate either a circle, a square or a triangle to each team. In a given amount of time each team must try to obtain as many of the allocated shape as they can. The winners are those who get the most of their shape – but they lose a point if they have grabbed any of the other two teams' shapes by mistake.
  - 2) First agree a way of moving if you are holding a circle, a different way of moving if you are holding a square and another way for anyone holding a triangle. Ask your class to line up. Stand at the front of the line and hand pupils one of the three shapes randomly. As soon as they receive that shape, they need to start moving in the agreed way for that shape. Every time a whistle is blown, they need to swap shapes with someone and start moving according to their new shape. To spice things up, you could allocate a new way of moving to a shape. Examples of different ways of moving might include: hopping, in slow motion, holding your shape without using your hands etc.
  - 3) A game where different pupils are set different tasks and have to complete their task in a set time e.g. fold one corner of all the triangles; mark an 'x' in the middle of every circle etc.

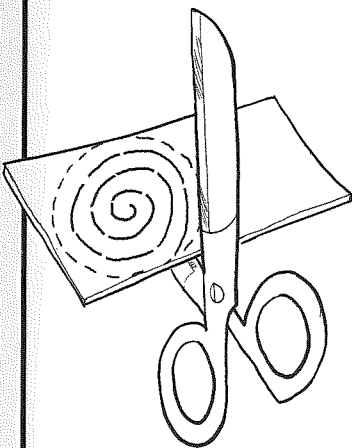


# Get in shape!



## Your task

**1. Choose one shape and make it become the mouth of a monster or alien. Then draw a picture of the whole creature using as many of your chosen shapes as possible.**



**2. You and a friend need a circle each. Cut it in a spiral shape and see who can make the longest paper string.**

**3. Use all three shapes. If these three shapes were windows, what circle, triangle or square-shaped things might you see through each window?**

**4. Put all three shapes into the design of a toy for a baby. The toy needs to help the baby to learn to twist, pull and push. Make sure the drawing of your toy shows what happens when the baby pushes, pulls or twists the different shapes.**

**5. Use all three shapes. Can you fold and tear the shapes and stick them on paper to make the shape of an animal?**

**6. You need one cut-out shape. Look around the room you are in. See if you can find a place to hide your shape so it would be tricky to find. You need to be able to see your shape when it's in its hiding place without having to move anything. When you have found a place, colour your shape in a way that makes it even harder to find (so it is camouflaged). You can use sticky tack or tape to hold your shape in place.**

