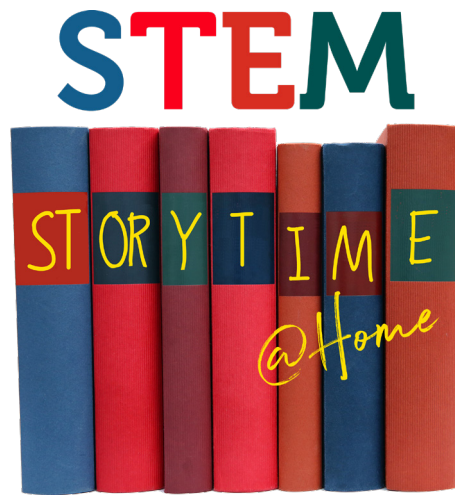


STEM




**north
museum**
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Welcome to STEM Storytime @ Home!

STEM Storytime is a program for preschool aged children and their caretakers. Like our other Early Childhood programs, STEM Storytime introduces important elements of prekindergarten learning with and a live story presentation from a member of the museum's education team. This program provides preschoolers with new science and nature based concepts and vocabulary using the familiar tools of storytime and hands on activities to further enhance new learning opportunities.

This month's story and activities are focused on shapes using the book *Perfect Square* by Michael Hall.



ACTIVITY #1

THE PERFECT SQUARE

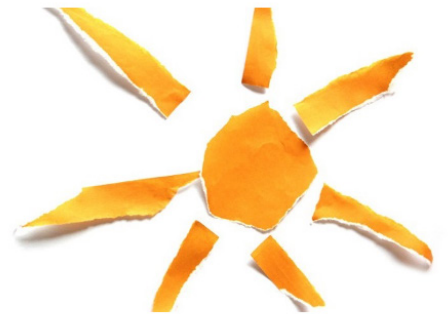
While participating in this art activity your child will:

- Explore how a shape can be deconstructed and turned into something new.
- Engage in the creative process.
- Develop fine motor skills while cutting, tearing, using the hole punch, gluing and more



Supplies You Will Need

- Construction paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Hole punch



Directions

1. Directions are quite simple for this one... start by cutting your paper into squares.
2. How will you deconstruct the shape? Cut it. Tear it. Punch holes, crumple, snip, the choices are endless!
3. What will you create from your square? Can you cut your shape into pieces to create a rocket? Can you punch enough holes to create a snowstorm scene? Let your imagination go!

ACTIVITY #2

DRIVEWAY SHAPE MAZE

Supplies You Will Need

- Sidewalk Chalk



Directions

1. Start outside with your box of sidewalk chalk, filling the driveway, sidewalk or patio with a variety of shapes. Since we just read *Perfect Square*, add a few extra squares along the way.
2. Once you're finished drawing your shapes, it's time to play!
3. Have your child start in a square along the outside of the playing field.
4. The object is simple, get from one side of the shapes to the next, only stepping on Squares!
5. Next round, choose a new shape. Taking turns with an opponent makes for even more fun! If you land on the same shape, you need to start again!
6. This game has multiple variations of play too. You could make the challenge based on color of the shapes. You could create cards to flip over for the next shape to move to.
7. Enjoy your creative new way to practice shapes!



ACTIVITY #3

GIANT SHAPE SORT

It's time for a shape sorting scavenger hunt! A little masking tape and objects around the house can turn into a fun learning game for the family! This GIANT shape sort activity is perfect for teaching shape recognition...with the little cognitive development skill of sorting on the side!

Supplies You Will Need

- Masking Tape

Directions

1. Start with making giant shapes using color tape on your floor.
2. Next, the hunt is on! How many things can your child find in the house that matches these shapes?
3. Take turns with a sibling or parent and see who can find the most in certain time limit without repeating!
4. Continue the game by helping your child recognize shapes in everyday objects you find both at home and outside!

