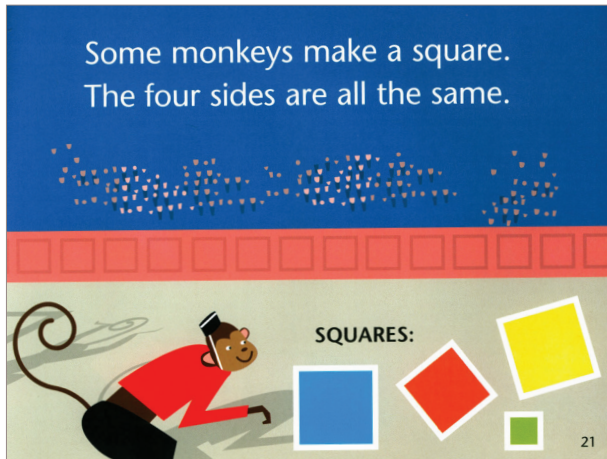


# Circus Shapes by Stuart J. Murphy and Edward Miller

AGE LEVEL 3–6 years

## About the Story

A family encounters different shapes when they spend a day at the circus. Elephants march around in a circle, horses make a triangle, monkeys make a square, and bears make a rectangle. Children can look for these shapes and more throughout the beautiful illustrations.



## Words to Learn

### SHAPE WORDS

circle, triangle, square, rectangle, side, corner, round.

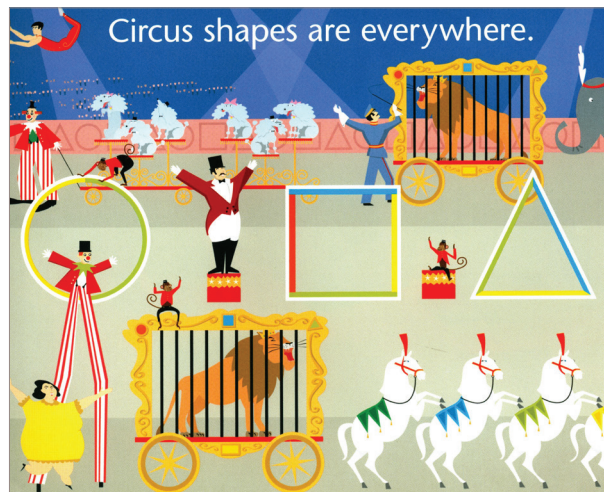
### OTHER WORDS

ringmaster, stilts, tame, acrobat, twirling, aglow.

## About the Math

As the circus animals make different shapes, your child can learn:

- The names and properties of the shapes. For example, circles are round.
- How to compare different shapes. For example, while a square has four sides, a triangle has only three sides.
- If you make a shape bigger, smaller, or turn it around, it's still the same shape. For example, a square turned on its corner is still a square.



## Math Talk During Reading

### EXPLORE THE NAMES AND PROPERTIES OF SHAPES

What is this shape called? How many sides does it have?

### NOTICE HOW SHAPES COME IN DIFFERENT COLORS, SIZES, AND ORIENTATIONS

This shape is turned on its side. Is it still a triangle? How do you know?

### TALK ABOUT HOW THE SHAPES ARE SIMILAR AND DIFFERENT

How is the rectangle different from the square? How are they the same?

### CONNECT THE STORY TO YOUR CHILD'S LIFE

Have you ever been to the circus? What other acts do we see at the circus?

*Try to come up with some of your own questions and comments too!*

## Activity After Reading

### LOOK FOR SHAPES ALL AROUND YOU

Let's look around the room. What shapes do you see?