

Geometric Solids

Direct Aim: Development of awareness of three-dimensional geometric shapes by manipulating the solids.

Development of the ability to associate language with three-dimensional shapes.

Indirect Aim Preparation for reading by scanning when placing the solids in a left to right order across the top of the table or mat.
Preparation for mathematics by developing an understanding of three-dimensional forms.

The Geometric solids are a key part of the sensorial curriculum area that are comprised of nine solid wooden shapes that are blue. These shapes include: a triangular prism, a rectangle prism, a cube, a cylinder, a cone, a triangular pyramid, a sphere, an ellipsoid and an ovoid. These are kept in a basket along with five cards or wooden bases displaying 2D geometric figures drawn with a thin blue line.

Directions: Invite a child to the sensorial area, identifying the Geometric solids and bring them to a work mat and placing the basket in the top right corner of the mat. Once seated at the mat, take out one recognizable shape first, such as a sphere, and place it on the mat in front of you. Pick up the sphere and observe the solid then say to the child, "This is a sphere". Replace the sphere on the mat, and then offer the child a turn to repeat the process.

You can repeat this process with each solid, giving the child time to identify the differences between them. Follow-up this activity with the 3 period lesson. Once the child has completed the activity have them return the activity to the shelf.

