All About Shapes

Circle Day
(spheres, cylinder, semicircles)

Definition: A circle is a shape made of curved lines with no corners.

Read: What is Round? by Rebecca Dotlich
Round & Square by M. Schlein
Ten Black Dots by Donald Crews

Introduce the circle:
- Make a shape on the floor with tape and sing the “Hokey Pokey” while holding something circular (“Put your circle in, take your circle out, put your circle in, and shake it all about. . . .”)
- Cut out several shapes and find ones that are circles
- Draw circles on the window or a mirror with whiteboard markers

Foods to eat:

- Marshmallows
- fried potatoes
- peas
- hamburgers
- salmon patties
- grapes
- tomatoes
- lollypop
- Ritz® crackers
- apples (sliced horizontally)
- banana slices
- sausage balls
- oranges
- pizza w/pepperoni
- bowl of soup
- spaghetti and meatballs (use colander)

Things to do:

For younger preschoolers
- Make circles w/their bodies, arms, fingers
- Make cookies
- Have a tea party w/play dishes
- Talk about CDs and DVDs
- Color coffee filters and spray with water
- Play a drum, tambourine, and others
- Sing “Ring Around the Rosy”
- Sit in a “bus” and sing “The Wheels on the Bus . . .”
- Sort coins
- Go outside and color with chalk
- Ride a bicycle and/or a tricycle
- Circle surprises—guess what it is (smile, clock)
For older preschoolers

- Use a globe
- Craft w/bubble wrap, potato, paint
- Get round and other shapes, predict which will roll, sort by “will,” “won’t,” and tell why
- Talk about clocks and time
- Make angel food cake
- Play round games (Sequence®, Mr. Mouth®, Pooh, Hungry Hippos®, Pizza game, Bingo)
- Eyedropper, wax paper w/magnify glass
- Roller skate
- Draw a circle and let them fill
- Cut into different fractions and discuss

Objects You Can Play with:

- Train: make a circle with the track
- round containers w/ lids
- straws
- bubbles
- crown
- hats
- yo-yo
- buttons (sort, count, etc.)
- balls
- cars
- oatmeal box
- hula hoop

Other activities:

- Find circles in magazines and cut them out to make a collage (do this for each shape and make a book at the end).

- Find everything in your house you can that is circular, spherical, or cylindrical. Put them all together and take a picture of your child/children making a circle with their bodies.

- Take a trip to the playground, craft store, or grocery store to look for circles.