

‘Shape, Space and Measure’ What does it look like in EYFS?

In planning and guiding what children learn, practitioners must reflect on the different rates at which children are developing and adjust their practice appropriately. Three characteristics of effective teaching and learning are:

- playing and exploring - children investigate and experience things, and ‘have a go’
- active learning - children concentrate and keep on trying if they encounter difficulties, and enjoy achievements
- creating and thinking critically - children have and develop their own ideas, make links between ideas, and develop strategies for doing things. In addition, the Prime Areas of Learning (Personal, Social and Emotional Development, Communication and Language and Physical Development) underpin and are an integral part of the children’s learning in all areas.

Shape, Space and Measure (Statutory)

It is important that the curriculum includes rich opportunities for children to develop their spatial reasoning skills across all areas of mathematics including shape, space and measures. It is important that children develop positive attitudes and interests in mathematics, look for patterns and relationships, spot connections, ‘have a go’, talk to adults and peers about what they notice and not be afraid to make mistakes.

Birth to 3 -	3-4 year olds -	Reception -
<p>Climb and squeezing selves into different types of spaces. Build with a range of resources. Complete inset puzzles. Compare sizes, weights etc. using gesture and language - ‘bigger/ little/smaller’, ‘high/ low’, ‘tall’, ‘heavy’. Notice patterns and arrange things in patterns.</p>	<p>Compare quantities using language: ‘more than’, ‘fewer than’. • Talk about and explore 2D and 3D shapes (for example, circles, rectangles, triangles and cuboids) using informal and mathematical language: ‘sides’, ‘corners’, ‘straight’, ‘flat’, ‘round’. • Understand position through words alone – for example, “The bag is under the table,” – with no pointing. • Describe a familiar route. • Discuss routes and locations, using words like ‘in front of’ and ‘behind’. • Make comparisons between objects relating to size, length, weight and capacity. Select shapes appropriately: flat surfaces for building, a triangular prism for a roof etc. • Combine shapes to make new ones – an arch, a bigger triangle etc. • Talk about and identifies the patterns around them. For example: stripes on clothes, designs on rugs and wallpaper. Use informal language like ‘pointy’, ‘spotty’, ‘blobs’ etc. • Extend and create ABAB patterns – stick, leaf, stick, leaf. • Notice and correct an error in a repeating pattern. • Begin to describe a sequence of events, real or fictional, using words such as ‘first’, ‘then...’</p>	<p>Select, rotate and manipulate shapes in order to develop spatial reasoning skills. • Compose and decompose shapes so that children recognise a shape can have other shapes within it, just as numbers can. • Continue, copy and create repeating patterns. • Compare length, weight and capacity.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ELG - Not assessed</p>		