Little Shape Builders

Ten cut-and-arrange activities | A grown-up guide for ages 3-5

Choose by readiness

For a child who can point to simple shapes and follow one short direction with help. Begin with the three-piece cart, lamp or bridge. Add more pieces when ready; age alone is not a requirement.

Print and prepare

Print the matching A4 or US Letter file at 100% / actual size. Use ordinary paper, a pencil and optional glue. An adult cuts out the bottom pieces on their solid outlines. Small paper pieces are not toys: supervise throughout and keep them away from mouths and younger siblings.

Build together

Cut off the entire bottom strip along its dashed line first, then cut out the pieces. Keep the model and build box. Ask the child to name or point to a piece, turn it and arrange it in the box. The model is the same scale as the pieces. Glue only after trying the layout.

Help without a test

Offer one piece at a time or let the child point while you move it. Try one activity for about five minutes; stop sooner if tired. The robot button and fish eye overlap larger shapes on purpose. A square is also a rectangle; this pack names squares separately for easy piece counting.

Explore further

Each page has an optional rearranging or drawing challenge. These have many valid outcomes. The final invention is open-ended. The two-page adult check guide explains the nine models and a possible invention.

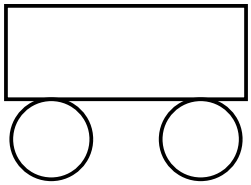
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1. Rolling cart

Look. Choose a shape. Turn it. Build your picture.

LOOK AT THE MODEL



Put the long rectangle above the two round wheels.

BUILD HERE

TRY ANOTHER WAY (optional)

Move the same three pieces to make a different picture.

ADULT CUT-OUT STRIP | 3 pieces | Cut on each solid outline.







Grown-up check guide

Compare the arrangement, not the neatness. Offer help as needed.

1. Rolling cart

1 rectangle, 2 circles
Cart: the two circles touch the lower edge of the rectangle and stay apart. The model uses 3 pieces.

Optional challenges: accept any arrangement that follows the prompt. Shapes may be turned and moved. No speed, grade or developmental score is implied.

This free sample contains the grown-up guide, Rolling cart activity and its check notes. These pages overlap the full pack. The complete pack has 13 pages per size: guide, ten activities and two check pages.