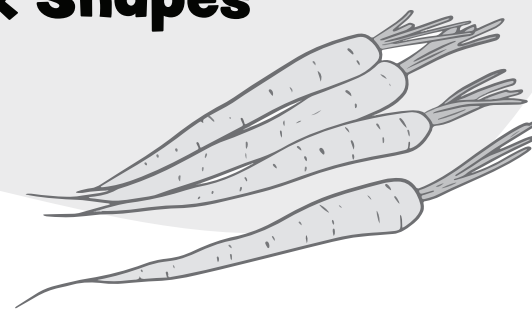


# Fun With Food: Carrot Stick Shapes

Grades: K - 6

Time: 20 mins



## Lesson summary:

Practice making basic and/or advanced 2 dimensional geometric shapes with carrot sticks.

## What's the big idea?



- Have fun making geometric shapes with carrot sticks.

## Outcomes or purpose:

- This activity introduces basic and advanced geometric shapes and their names to children.

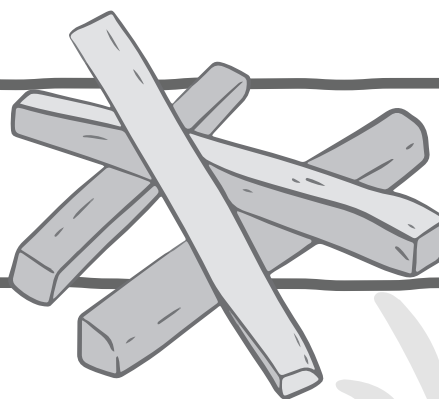
## Teacher background:

These 2 dimensional (flat) shapes are basic geometry. Some of the words we use for these shapes have clues in the name about the shape they represent. For example:

- Tri is a latin word meaning three
- -angle is also latin for the angles in the corner of a triangle
- Pent is latin for five
- Hex is a Greek word meaning six
- Oct is a Greek word meaning eight
- -agon is a Greek word for having corners or angles

## Materials needed:

- 4-5 Medium carrots
- Knife
- Cutting board
- Dip (optional)



# Fun With Food: Carrot Stick Shapes

## Step by step instructions:

1.

*Optional:* Harvest carrots from the garden.

2.

Make carrot sticks by cutting carrots lengthwise. Then cut halved carrots lengthwise again. Each carrot will yield 4 sticks. You can cut the sticks in half to make 8 sticks if carrots are extra long.

3.

Review basic shapes with all students:

- A** Triangle (3 sides)
- B** Square (4 sides)
- C** Rectangle (4 sides)

4.

Review advanced shapes with older children:

- A** Pentagon (5 sides)
- B** Hexagon (6 sides)
- C** Octagon (8 sides)

5.

Review the idea of a straight side. Ask children to identify how many straight sides are in each shape.

6.

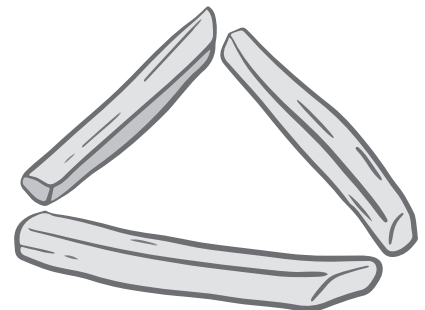
Call out a shape at random and ask children to make the shape using carrot sticks.

7.

Ask children how they would make a circle with a carrot. Can they guess? (Slice it widthwise to get carrot medallions).

8.

Eat the carrots for snack or lunch with a homemade dip.



## Discussion questions

- Which one has a long side: a rectangle or a square?
- What do these shapes remind you of? Can you find another (triangle, square, rectangle etc) somewhere in this room?
- Do you have a favourite shape? Why?
- What else can you make with your carrot sticks and medallions? Have fun with this and encourage the children to make anything at all.

## Expand the learning:

- Use this fun activity to start or end a math or geometry lesson.