

Landmarks Guide for Younger Children



Louise Bourgeois

American, born in France, 1911

Eyes

1982

Marble

Subject: Shape

Activity: Create a collage that combines different shapes

Materials: Colored paper, scissors, glue

Vocabulary: Artist, form, outline, sculpture, shape

i Introduction

Point out to your child that he or she can follow the outline of a figure by running a finger around the edges. Explain that shape is what we call the outline of a form. Circles, squares, and triangles are very common shapes. Anything that has a form, or a body, also has a shape. We can see shapes in everything around us.

Artists use shapes to create different forms. This artist made a sculpture that uses two different kinds of shapes.

? Questions

What shapes are in this sculpture?

Is the shape on the bottom a common shape, or is it different? Why?

Which shape did the artist use twice?

🔍 Observations

Note that by putting two circles together, the artist created eyes. Encourage your child to create recognizable objects by combining different shapes.

Louise Bourgeois, continued



Activity

Cut basic shapes out of colored paper, such as circles, ovals, rectangles, squares, stars, and triangles. Ask your child to select shapes, identify them, and glue them onto a piece of paper. Encourage him or her to make something recognizable by placing the shapes together.



Vocabulary

Artist - Someone who makes things, such as paintings and sculptures

Form - The shape of something, as opposed to its surface

Outline - A line drawn around the outside edge of something

Sculpture - A work of art that has height, width, and depth

Shape - An outline of a body, like a circle or square



Artists with Related Works

Juan Hamilton, *Curve and Shadow, No. 2*, 1983

Donald Lipski, *The West*, 1987

Beverly Pepper, *Harmonious Triad*, 1982–1983

Joel Perlman, *Square Tilt*, 1983