Building Blocks Tips Week 15 –Geometry

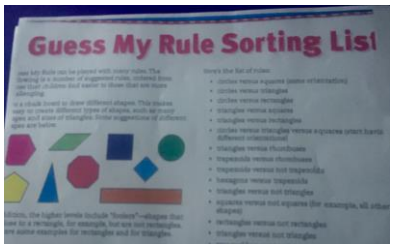
Strategies Gold. 13. Uses classification skills. 21b. Understands shapes

Whole Group- (WG) Mr. Mix-up Shapes, Count and Move (forward and backward) Guess My Rule

Small Group Activities (SG) Guess My Rule & Shape Step. (repeat of week 10 but with more advanced shapes) ***Prepare shapes in advance*** and know which "rule" you want children to notice. If using triangles, use different shaped triangles. This game develops critical thinking skills and logical reasoning skills.

Introduce to Children: "This is a quiet game. We are going to sort shapes into two piles using a rule (that's something that makes the shapes the same). I'll start and you'll help me by pointing to the pile where the shapes should go. Ready?"

If your rule is "triangles vs. rhombuses" put out one triangle and one rhombus, then another triangle and rhombus, starting two separate piles. Then hold up a rhombus for children to decide where it goes. Remind them to point just with fingers. After you place 3-4 shapes in the piles. Ask "Why do you think this shape goes in that pile?.....what makes them the same? What do you think my rule is? (extending thinking beyond naming of shape)



A fun way to play this game is to have a large amount of each kind of shape you are using (use shapes from different sets). After children have guessed the rule, let them sort all the shapes into two piles. Each child picks a shape to sort. They really enjoy this "hands on" way of sorting.

******If you prefer, you could play Memory Geometry (from week 9) for small group activity.**

ConnectEd Mystery Pictures 4 & Memory Geometry 4