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Community Helpers



What You Need:

- Nothing! Just go for a walk in your community!

Directions:

1. Go for a walk in your neighbourhood.
2. Look for items that are part of the community that you can explain to your children. Some examples include:
 - School - point to a school and talk about teachers and how they help children with their education
 - Community Mailbox - point to a community mailbox and explain how a postman drops off mail at them
 - Recycling Bin - point to a recycling bin and talk about recycling
 - Garbage Can - point to a garbage can and talk about how you should not litter and how garbage collectors take the garbage away.
 - Fire Station/Truck - point to a fire station/truck and talk about the role of the fireman



Talking Points:

Talk to your little one about how each item is important to the community and how it helps out everyone in the community. Try to talk about all the why, who, when, where and what questions. For example, why do we recycle (help the environment), who recycles (we all do), when do we recycle (all the time whenever we can), where do we recycle (in the blue bin, donation centres, etc.), and what do we recycle (talk about items you might recycle).

Books:

- 📖 [Community Helpers from A to Z](#) by Bobbie Kalman from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#)
- 📖 [We're Better Together](#) by Eileen Spinelli from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#)

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Shape Search



What You Need:

- Nothing! Just go for a walk in your community or to a park!

Directions:

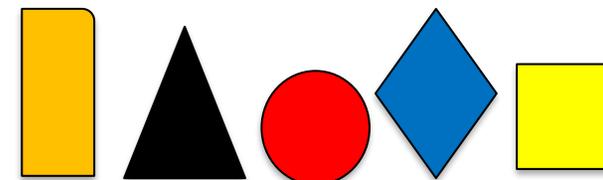
1. Go for a walk in your community or visit a park.
2. Look at all the signs, utility boxes, car wheels, playground equipment to discover different shapes.
3. Ask your little one if they can identify the shape you found and then ask your little one to find a hidden shape too.



Talking Points:

Learning shapes is an important pre-literacy skill. Not only does it allow your little one to identify and organize visual information, but when children are able to recognize the different shapes they will have an easier time learning their alphabet.

Talk to your little one about shapes, such as how many sides and corners the shapes has or how the sides are different or the same in length.



Books:

- 📖 [Round is a Mooncake](#) by Roseanne Thong from [Tumble Book Library](#)
- 📖 [Tangled: A Story About Shapes](#) by Anne Miranda from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#)
- 📖 [Shapes](#) by Katie Wilson from [Hoopla](#)
- 📖 [Friendshape](#) by Amy Krouse Rosental and Tom Lichtenheld from [Kanopy Kids](#)
- 📖 [First Shapes in Buildings](#) by Penny Ann Lane from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#)

3+

Letter Hunt

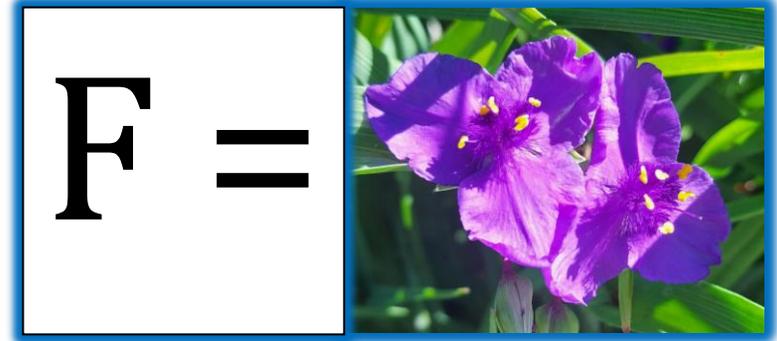


What You Need:

- Nothing! Just go for a walk in your community or to a park!

Directions:

1. Go for a walk in your community or a park.
2. Look for objects in nature that starts with the same letter as your child's first name.
3. Repeat by finding objects in nature that start with other family or friend's name.



Talking Points:

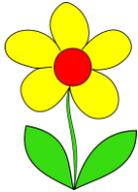
The ability to recognize and name letters (both upper and lower case) and produce the sounds they make is an important pre-literacy skill. When looking for items in the community that start with the letter of your child's name make sure to emphasize the sound that the first letter of their name makes. If your child points to an object that starts with their name emphasize the first letter sound and say, 'great work'. If your child points to an object that they think starts with the first letter of their name but it does not, emphasize the first letter sound of the object and then ask them if it sounds the same as the first letter in their name. See if they can guess correctly.

Books:

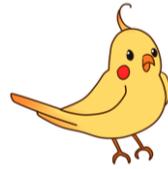
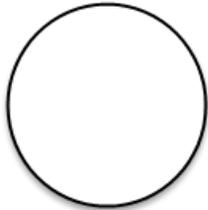
- 📖 [Chicka Chicka Boom Boom](#), by Bill Martin from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#)
- 📖 [The Little Red Cat Who Ran Away and Learned His ABC's \(the Hard Way\)](#), by Patrick McDonnell from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#)
- 📖 [Cat and Dog's Alphabet](#) by Christyan and Diane Fox from [Hoopla](#)
- 📖 [Every Little Letter](#) by Deborah Underwood from [Vaughan Public Libraries](#)

Outdoor Scavenger Hunt

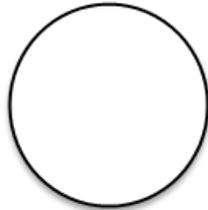
Print this page out, or if you don't have a printer, just write the items on a piece of paper. Have your small child find as many of the following items that they can. Then have your small child write down the number of each item they find or show them how to draw the number/trace over your number.



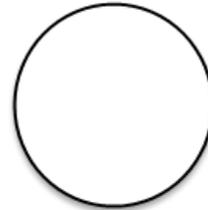
Flowers



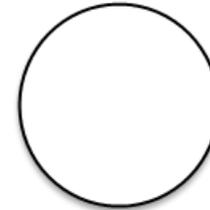
Birds



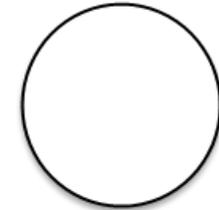
Butterflies



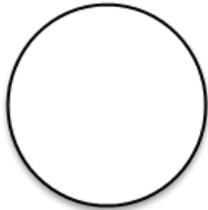
Pinecones



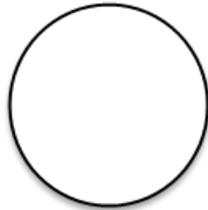
Squirrels



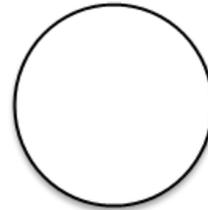
Spiders



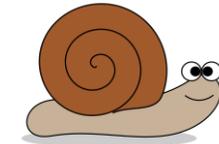
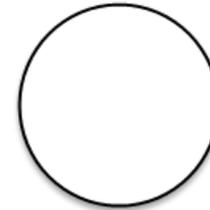
Bicycles



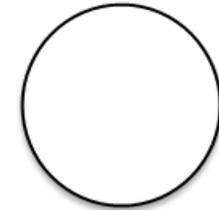
Chipmunks



Red Cars



Snails



Songs



Community Helpers Song

If I were a baker
What would I do?
Bake lots of cookies
For me and you.

If I were a veterinarian
What would I do?
Care for your pet
It's special to you.

If I were a dentist,
What would I do?
Check those teeth
That's good for you!

If I were a hairdresser
What would I do?
Wash and trim your hair
Oh, so nice for you!

Put Your Coat On

Tune: Did You Ever See A Lassie

It's time to put your coat on
Your coat on, your coat on
It's time to put your coat on
We'll all go outside

First one arm, then the other
Then up goes the zipper
It's time to put your coat on
We'll all go outside

Walking, Walking

Tune: Frere Jacques

Walking, walking (x2)
Hop, hop, hop (x2)
Running, running, running (x2)
Now we stop (x2)

Tiptoe, tiptoe (x2)
Hop, hop, hop (x2)
Running, running, running (x2)
Now we stop (x2)

Jumping, jumping (x2)
Hop, hop, hop (x2)
Running, running, running (x2)
Now we stop (x2)

Dancing, dancing (x2)
Hop, hop, hop (x2)
Running, running, running (x2)
Now we stop (x2)

