

Geometric Snowmen

Purpose

Students will make two- and three-dimensional snowmen and discuss the characteristics that identify each.

Materials

For each student: construction paper circles of 3 different sizes, drawing paper, crayons, glue, scissors, modeling clay, various art supplies (e.g., yarn, fabric scraps, buttons, etc.)

Activity

A. Introduction

1. Ask students to review with you the characteristics of a circle.
2. Find examples of circles and ask students: "Where do you see a circle in the classroom? Where do you see circles in other places?"

B. Making Two-Dimensional Snowmen

1. Hand out construction paper circles and drawing paper.
2. Have students glue circles to drawing paper to make snowmen.
3. Direct students to decorate their paper snowmen.

C. Making Three-Dimensional Snowmen

1. Hand out modeling clay to each student.
2. Have students make three balls from the modeling clay.
3. Have the students "build" a snowman.
4. Direct students to decorate their clay snowmen.

D. Discussion

1. Have students observe the different characteristics of their two-dimensional and three-dimensional snowmen creations (use the terms "two-dimensional" and "three-dimensional" with students).
2. Record the differences on the chalkboard.



**connecting
across the
curriculum**

English/ Language Arts

Read the book *Shapes* by John J. Reiss to the whole class. Ask students to give examples of shapes (both two- and three-dimensional) found in the story. Ask what the animals in the story do to make that shape.



**EXTENDING
THE
ACTIVITY**


Have students build other two- and three-dimensional creations using squares, cubes, etc.


**Standards Link
1.4.1**


Questions for Review

Basic Concepts and Processes

After the activity, give students a variety of shapes (circles, spheres, cubes, squares, etc.). Ask them the following questions:

 Show me a two-dimensional object. Show me a three-dimensional object.

 How did you decide which group each shape belonged to?

 What are some characteristics of two-dimensional objects?

 What are some characteristics of three-dimensional objects?
