**Shapes: Mondlicht (Grade Pre-K)**

*Mondlicht* (Moonlight), 1925, Alexei Jawlensky

Oil on board, 16 ⅜ x 12 ¼ in. (41.9 x 32.4 cm). Gift of Gladys and Sam Rubinstein, 2014.26.2, photo: Nathaniel Wilson.

Find online at: [https://tinyurl.com/w3mb2l3](https://tinyurl.com/w3mb2l3)

**LOOKING QUESTIONS**

First, look at the artwork. Don’t do anything else but look until you’ve counted to 20 in your head or out loud!

Then talk about it with a friend or family member.

- What do you see? What does it make you think about? What does it make you wonder?
- Today, we’re going to learn all about shapes. What shapes can we find in this picture? Can you find:
- What do you see in the painting when these shapes are combined?

**INFORMATION**

The artist Alexei Jawlensky combines different shapes to create an abstract face. Abstract means that, even though we can tell it is a face, it does not look exactly real. The artwork is more about shapes and colors than making someone look real. The artist created many paintings like this which were all a little bit different. This one is called *Moonlight*. Do the colors he used remind you of the colors you might see at night under the moonlight?

**MOVEMENT ACTIVITY: SHAPE YOGA**

Use your body to make shapes! On the count of three, move your body to make this shape:

- Circle
- Triangle
- Square
- Rectangle
- Star
KEEP LEARNING WITH A STORY

_The Perfect Square, by Michael Hall (PK–K)_

A perfect square transforms by being cut, torn, shattered, and more, in this animated read-aloud performed with the Minnesota Orchestra.

- Hear the book read out loud here: [https://tinyurl.com/y7s4wouw](https://tinyurl.com/y7s4wouw).

_The Shape Trilogy: Triangle, Square and Circle, by Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen (PK–3)_

In these three silly books, children’s book power-duo Barnett and Klassen tell the tales of three shape friends and their adventures.

- Hear the book read out loud:
  - [https://tinyurl.com/v8zwusav](https://tinyurl.com/v8zwusav)
  - [https://tinyurl.com/yt5khk4e](https://tinyurl.com/yt5khk4e)
  - [https://tinyurl.com/yd5khk4e](https://tinyurl.com/yd5khk4e)

- Borrow the e-book on the King County or Seattle Public Library website.

ART ACTIVITY

Create a portrait of yourself using shapes!

**Materials**

Color cardstock or construction paper, scissors, glue or tape, and markers or crayons.

**Steps**

1. Start by cutting shapes out from the paper. You can use stencils, cookie cutters, or another object in your house to trace the shapes.

2. Pick out a piece of paper to be your base. Now it’s time to figure out which shapes to use to create your very own self-portrait. Take a look in the mirror, what shapes do you see? Is your nose shaped like a triangle or a square? What shape are your eyes? Your ears? Your mouth? Your chin? Play around with the shapes to create your portrait.

3. Once you’ve created an image you’re happy with, use tape or glue to keep your shapes in place.

4. Use markers or crayons to add details like hair or freckles.

Make sure to share your finished masterpiece with your family and friends!

visitsam.org

© 2020 All SAM Resource Guides and materials are copyright protected and can be used for educational purposes only.