

“When You Find Colors and Shapes”

by Angela Russ-Ayon

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Open-ended Questions and Instructional Support

Pg. 1

This book offers plenty of opportunities to take the reading experience for young children to a higher level of thinking. Explore STEM concepts together. Encourage observation, ask open-ended questions, and wait patiently for a response. The questions below follow the progress of the book. Choose one or more as you turn the pages. And don't forget to share your own experiences with the author.

You can discuss colors, shapes, sizes, positions in space, patterns, and movement while you compare and contrast.

MOVES IN ORDER:

Shake, twist from side to side, lift one foot and balance, turn around, swing your arms up and over, bend over and sweep, curl into a ball, march, jump (shout “Hooray”), walk straight ahead, run, tap the book, clap to start over.

EVERY PAGE TURN

1. Describe what you see.
2. What do you notice on this page?
3. What do you notice about the shapes/colors on this page?
4. How do you know that's a ____ (shape)?
5. Where else do you see this shape/color inside/outside?
6. What are other things that are shaped like this?
7. How are these shapes/colors different or the same?
8. What do you think of when you see this shape/color? Why?
9. What happened to the shapes after you moved?
10. How did the shapes change?
11. Why do you think the shapes look like they do now?
12. Describe what you're doing.
13. How would you draw this shape in the air or on paper?

BLUE RECTANGLE | SHAKE

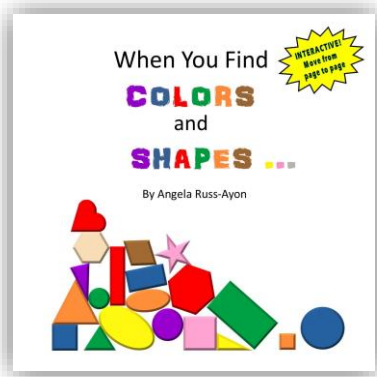
1. What do you see when you look high/low in the pile of shapes?
2. How can you move your body high and low?
3. What are things that are high/low in the room or outside?
4. How do you shake a little/a lot?
5. Which parts of your body can you shake?
6. What other things can you shake?
7. Why do you think the shapes flew far and wide?
8. What else do you see on this page? (Face)
9. How would your body look if you spread it far/wide?
10. What other things are shaped like a rectangle?

Rectangle: door, wallet, book, chalkboard, brick, table, picture frame, television, cell phone, cracker, bus, desk, bed, box, lasagna pasta, playing cards.

Blue: blueberries, bluebird, jeans, bluebells, sky, sapphire, oceans, eyes, Cookie Monster, Grover, Blue Man Group, peacock, topaz, Horton, Dory, Eeyore, plums, lilac, blue jay, Smurfs.

RED HEART | TWIST

1. How would you make a heart with your hands?
2. How do you twist your body?
3. How do you know where your side is?
4. Why do you think you can't twist your body all the way around when your feet don't move?
5. Can you show me how to twist slowly/faster?
6. What other body parts can you twist?
7. What are things at home/in class you can twist? How do you twist them?
8. What do you think will happen to the shapes when you twist your body?
9. What do you notice about the colors/shapes on this page? (patterns)
10. Where do you see patterns around us?
11. How can you make a pattern with shapes/colors?
12. What else can you use to make patterns?



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13. *Do you think our hearts are shaped like this? Why? Why not?*

Red: fire truck, fire extinguisher, ketchup, tomatoes, cranberries, peppers, bell pepper, strawberry, raw meat, apple, raspberry, inside of a watermelon, red velvet cake, candied apple, stoplight, lobster, pepperoni, ladybug, The Flash, Elmo, Ironman.

ORANGE SQUARE | LIFT ONE FOOT

1. *What do you think the author means by “across?”*
2. *What happens when you lift one foot and hold it in the air? (balance)*
3. *Is it easy or hard to balance on one foot? Why?*
4. *What if you tried balancing on the other foot?*
5. *What if you counted while you balanced?*
6. *What if you balanced with your arms up, out, down, behind you?*
7. *What other things can you balance?*
8. *What will happen if you stack your toys/blocks like these shapes?*
9. *How would you stack toys/blocks differently to make them straight?*
10. *You balanced on one foot. How did the shapes balance with you?*
11. *Which shapes do you see at the top/in the middle/on the bottom?*
12. *What do you think of when you see the color orange/a square?*
13. *What do you notice about the colors/shapes on this page? (patterns)*
14. *What are other things shaped like a square?*
15. *How would you make a square using your body?*

Square: game board, box, Rubik’s cube, block, window pane, dice, ottoman, tiles, cheese slices.

Orange: Pumpkin, carrot, marigold flower, goldfish, clown fish, tiger, kumquat, caution cones, oranges, tangerines, inside of a cantaloupe, inside of a sweet potato.

PURPLE CIRCLE | SPIN AROUND

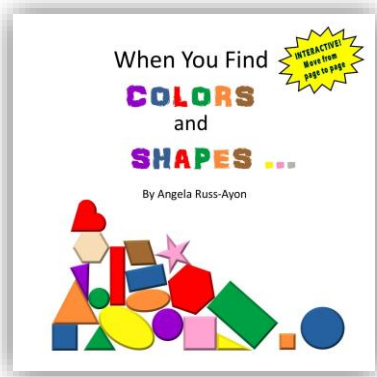
1. *How would you make a circle with your hands/arms/body?*
2. *How do you move your body when you spin?*
3. *What’s the best way to spin to keep from falling?*
4. *What happens if you spin slowly/too fast?*
5. *What if you hold a tissue/streamer/scarf in your hand when you spin?*
6. *Why do you think the shapes flew into a circle?*
7. *What do you think of when you see the shapes in a circle/the color purple?*
8. *How can you measure the size of a circle?*
9. *What are other things shaped like a circle?*
10. *How can you draw a circle?*

Circle: plate, eraser on a pencil, a light fixture, ball, orange, slice of fruit, bracelet, a snowman, a full moon, a button, bottle cap, wheel, coins, clock, tortilla.

Purple: flower, eggplant, cabbage, grapes, blackberries, currants, figs, plums, beets, endive, lavender, violets, lilacs, Barney, amethyst, Tinky Winky Teletubbie.

YELLOW OVAL | SWING

1. *How many ways can you swing your arms?*
2. *How do you swing high/low/close to your body/away from your body/overhead/in a circle/in a big circle/in a small circle/in a half circle?*
3. *What other body parts can you swing?*
4. *What do you think of when you see an oval/the color yellow/a rainbow?*
5. *What other things are shaped like an oval/yellow?*
6. *What other things are shaped like a rainbow? (slice of watermelon, turtle shell, jellyfish, or a bowl)*
7. *Where do you see rainbows?*
8. *What can you tell me about rainbows?*
9. *How do the colors look on a rainbow?*
10. *How is this rainbow the same/different from the ones you see in the sky?*
11. *How can you make a rainbow?*



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Oval: watermelon, egg, jewelry, stones, leaves, fake fingernails, loaf of bread, face, dishes, hair brush, toilet seat, head of a racquet.

Yellow: sun, daffodil, pencil, canary, baby chick, taxi, corn, squash, sponge, cheese, banana, butter, yolk, lemon, omelet, sunflower, school bus, mac and cheese.

GREEN TRIANGLE | BEND & SWEEP

1. How do you sweep?
2. Why do you sweep?
3. What happens when you sweep?
4. What tools do you use to sweep?
5. How can you make a triangle with your hands/body?
6. What happened to the shapes when you swept from side to side?
7. Why do you think the shapes are piled on top of one another like that?
8. What happens when you sweep with a broom?
9. What do you notice about the colors/shapes on each side?
10. How are the shapes the same/different on each side?
11. What are other things shaped like a triangle/green?

Triangle: “Yield” sign, slice of pizza, cone, hanger, slice of pie, pyramid, tee-pee, sails, party hat, shark’s fin, Toblerone candy box, a roof.

Green: Leaves, garden hose, grass, pepper, bell pepper, artichoke, avocado, watermelon rind, broccoli, Brussel sprouts, celery, cucumber, pippin apple, cilantro, pea, honeydew melon, kiwi, mint ice cream, lettuce, spinach, zucchini, Shrek, Grinch, Hulk, Ninja Turtles, Gumby, Oscar the Grouch.

PINK STAR | CURL UP

1. What can you tell me about the star shape?
2. What can you tell me about the color pink?

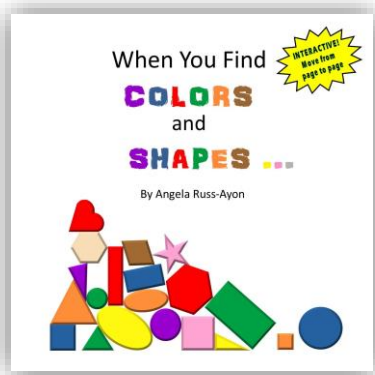
3. What are other things shaped like a star/that are pink?
4. Do all stars look the same? Why? Why not?
5. Do all pinks look the same? Why? Why not?
6. What do you have to do to make your body tight?
7. What’s the difference between being tight and being loose?
8. Show me how you make your body tight/loose.
9. What happened to the shapes when you curled up tight?
10. What do you think of when you see what the shapes did?
11. How do you make your body open up and go wide instead?
12. How can you play with a ball? (pass, roll, toss, catch, throw, kick, bounce)
13. How do you make a ball roll/bounce?
14. Why do you think a ball rolls (round) and a cube (square) doesn’t?
15. What can you do to make a ball roll faster/slower?
16. How can you make balls bounce higher?
17. What sounds do balls make?
18. What different kinds of balls can you find?
19. How can you make a ball?
20. What materials can you use to make a ball?

Star: starfish, star fruit, cookie cutter, ornaments, stickers, badge.

Pink: pink lemonade, pink grapefruit, flamingos, the Pink Panther, pig, bubble gum, peonies, salmon.

BROWN DIAMOND | MARCH

1. What can you tell me about diamonds/the color brown?
2. What do you think of when you see a diamond/the color brown? Why?
3. What happened to the shapes when you marched?
4. What’s the difference between walking and marching?
5. How do the shapes look now?
6. Why do you think the shapes look like a mountain?



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7. *How do you march?*
8. *What other things can you climb?*
9. *What things can you see when you look up/down?*
10. *Why do you think there are more shapes on the bottom than on the top?*
11. *What are other things shaped like a diamond?*

Diamond: baseball field, gemstone, kite, pavers, “School Zone” sign, “Slow Down” sign.

Brown: chocolate, coffee, brown bear, paper bag, almonds, walnuts, dirt, wood, skin of a coconut, skin of a kiwi, brown sugar, toast, pinecone, skin of a potato, pancake.

GRAY CRESCENT | JUMP

1. *What are other things shaped like a crescent/that are gray?*
2. *How can you make the color gray?*
3. *What other shapes does the moon make at night?*
4. *How does your body move when you jump?*
5. *How do your legs help you jump?*
6. *How do your shoes/clothes feel when you jump?*
7. *What happened to the shapes when you jumped?*
8. *Why do you think the shapes flew in the air?*
9. *Why do you think the small shapes flew higher than the big shapes?*
10. *What do you think will happen to the shapes next?*
11. *What happens when you toss something in the air?*
12. *What would you have to do to make the shapes go even higher?*
13. *What happens if you toss something in the air that is heavy/light?*
14. *What if we used a parachute/sheet to toss things?*

Crescent: banana, hot pepper, croissant, moon, pasta, eyelid.

Gray: rain clouds, moon, coins, elephant, shark, dolphin, hair, ashes, steel.

TAN HEXAGON | WALK STRAIGHT AHEAD

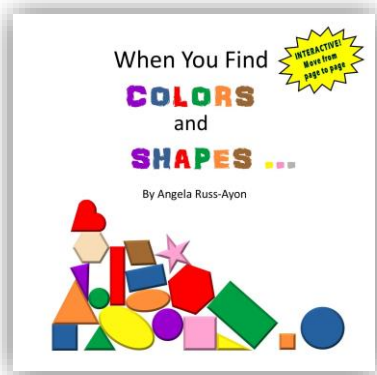
1. *What are other things shaped like a hexagon?*
2. *What are other things that are tan?*
3. *What’s the difference between the colors tan and brown?*
4. *What’s the difference between walking and jumping?*
5. *How does your body move when you walk?*
6. *How do you walk straight ahead?*
7. *What if you walked in a curve, wave, or zigzag?*
8. *How do you walk softly vs. stomp hard?*
9. *How fast can you walk without running?*
10. *How do the shoes you wear change the way you walk?*
11. *What would happen if you walked straight ahead and kept going?*
12. *What do you know about paths?*
13. *Where have you seen paths inside/outside?*
14. *Why do you think paths form where you walk?*
15. *What do you notice about how you walk compared to how animals and insects walk?*
16. *What happens when you walk on water, sand, mud, rocks, logs, or gravel? (footprints, tracking, sliding)*

Hexagon: bolt, honeycomb, stop sign, skin of a soccer ball, tiles, sections of a turtle shell.

Tan: sand, fawn, khaki fabric, biscuit, chickpea

WHITE | RUN

1. *How do you run?*
2. *What’s the difference between running and walking?*
3. *How do you make the color white?*
4. *What do you think of when you see the color white?*
5. *Where did the colors/shapes go?*
6. *What do you notice about the color white?*
7. *How does the color white compare to other colors?*
8. *How does your body move when you run?*



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9. How does your body feel after you run?
10. What are some reasons you would want/need to run?
11. How does your breathing change when you run?
12. How does your heartbeat feel when you run?
13. Why do you think the page is white?
14. What do you think would happen if everything was white?
15. Show me other things that are white.
16. How would you use the color white in a picture?
17. What happens when you add white to another color?

White: snow, dove, tooth, milk, sheep, polar bear, wedding dress, cotton ball, whipped cream, toilet paper, marshmallows, swan, paper, French tips, sugar cubes, baby’s breath flowers, cauliflower, coconut, salt.

BLACK | TAP

1. What happened after you tapped the page?
2. Why do you think the page is black?
3. How does the color black compare to other colors?
4. What do you think of when you see the color black?
5. What happens when you add black to another color?
6. What happens when you turn out the lights?
7. Why do you turn out the lights?

8. When do you turn out the lights?
9. What types of things do you do in the dark?
10. How do you move in the dark?
11. What do you like to do when it's dark?
12. What do you think happens in the dark?

Black: black bear, raven, panther, crow, beetle, bat, panda, black widow spider, licorice, black tie, black tuxedo, black pepper, Oreo cookie, onyx, charcoal, coal, oil.

CLAP to start the book over again.

CUT-OUTS

1. Show me what you can do with your shapes.
2. Show me this shape using your string/your body/sticks/rocks/paint/crayons.
3. What if you wanted to make a different shape?
4. How do these shapes fit together?
5. How can you use these shapes to make a design?
6. What if you colored the shapes before you cut them?