

2D shapes – naming and counting sides and corners

WHAT THIS LESSON TEACHES

A side is one of the straight edges that go around the outside of a flat shape. We count each side once as we go round, and corners are where two sides meet.

- A triangle has 3 straight sides and 3 corners.
- A square has 4 straight sides and 4 corners.

MODEL THIS ON THE BOARD

COUNTING SIDES AND CORNERS ON A CLASSROOM SHAPE

- ① Look at the rectangle the teacher drew on the board.
- ② Start at one corner and go all the way round, counting each straight side: **1, 2, 3, 4**.
- ③ Now count each corner where a pair of sides meets: **1, 2, 3, 4**.
- ④ The rectangle has 4 sides and 4 corners so it belongs to the four-sided family.

ANSWER KEY

Scaffold: visual check on the page

Q1: 3

Q2: 4

Q3: circle

a) Always — Every triangle has exactly 3 straight sides.

b) Always — A square always has 4 corners where its sides meet.

c) Sometimes — It could be a square, a rectangle or another four-sided shape.

d) Never — A circle has no straight sides, only one curved edge.

EXTENSION SHEET · STRETCH ANSWERS

S1: a regular hexagon

S2: a rectangle

S3: an isosceles triangle

Investigation: Classroom shape hunt — open-ended; scan pupils' working for valid solution paths rather than a single answer.