

EXPLORE WITH SHAPES

A shape is a flat area enclosed by lines



Jennifer Angus, (American, b. 1961), **The Treasure**, 2015, Woodcut, etching, relief, Transfer from Tandem Press, 2020.8.03.



Louise Nevelson, (American, b. Ukraine, 1899 –1988), **Black Light 1**, 1970, wood, paint, formica, Terese and Alvin S. Lane Collection, 2012.54.41.3.

Artists create works of art using the elements of art as their building blocks. One of these elements is shape. Shapes can be **geometric** like squares, circles, triangles and rectangles or shapes can be **organic** like those that occur naturally in the world around us like leaves, trees, or butterflies. Examine the two works of art above. What geometric shapes do you see? What organic shapes do you see?

LOOK

Take some paper and a writing utensil on a stroll through your neighborhood and look for examples of geometric and organic shapes. Draw what you find. What was the most surprising shape you found in nature? Use the following sheet to go on a shape scavenger hunt.

MAKE

Cut out the shapes from your neighborhood stroll. Draw a new shape that you have never seen before, give the new shape a name and cut it out. Now arrange all of your shapes on a sheet of paper and glue them down to create collage.

DO

Find some objects you can use as to “draw” big shapes. You can use books, tape, pillows, boxes or string, for example. Once you gather all the materials, position yourself in the center of the room, and use your objects to “draw” a shape around you. Draw a square, triangle and circle. Now try out some tricky shapes. How about a 6-sided or even a 12-sided shape?

SHAPE SCAVENGER HUNT

Stroll through your neighborhood and see how many shapes you can find!

