

Chairs as Lines and Shapes



- Grade level 1 or 2
- Subject area/s Math, Science, Visual Arts, Language Arts
- GPS/Common Core Standards MCC1.G.1, MCC1.G.2.; S1CS5a, S2CS5a, b; VA1PR.1b, VA1PR.2b, VA2AR.1c, d; ELACC1SL5, ELACC2SL2
- Objective The student will be able to identify and create lines and shapes in two-dimensional and three-dimensional objects.
- Materials
 - ✓ Images of chairs (Resources)
 - ✓ Various supplies, depending on chosen activity, to include any of the following:
 - Construction paper
 - Scissors
 - Blank paper
 - Pencil
 - Blocks
- Instructions
 - Discuss the concepts of line and shape with your students. Look at the images of chairs (see Resources) from the exhibition (or elsewhere) and ask your students to consider the following questions:
 - What lines do you see? Are they curved? Straight? Long? Short? Vertical? Horizontal? Diagonal?
 - Try to identify various shapes in the chairs. Which ones do you see? What are they made from (legs, back, wheels, etc.)
 - Choose an activity for your students to complete:
 - Have students cut out a certain number of shapes with construction paper. Use these shapes to assemble a two-dimensional chair.
 - Each student writes (or draws) a list of shapes and lines (e.g. 3 squares, 2 horizontal lines), then swap with a partner and try to create a chair from the items on the list. Have students compare

the chairs they created. How are they similar or different? Could they have created a different-looking chair with the same materials?

- Use blocks/Unifix cubes/Duplo, etc. to explore how chairs are made from three-dimensional shapes. Which shapes are easier to work with? Why? What would you need to create a more complex structure?
- Can you make a chair with your own body? What shapes and lines are you creating as you try to do so?

- Evaluation Use the student-created chairs as an informal assessment. Ask for verbal identification of shapes created within them.
- Accommodations
 - Choose more than one activity to accommodate for different types of learners
 - Provide assistance with any drawing or cutting, if need be
- Extensions
 - Challenge interested students with completing another of the provided activities
- Resources Slideshow of chairs from The Art of Seating
<http://www.columbiamuseum.org/exhibitions/art-of-seating/about>.