

Learning Activity for Quadrilaterals 5th Grade

Objective: The students will be able to classify quadrilaterals by their characteristics.

Materials: different 4-sided figures, tangrams

Quadrilaterals

Every four sided shape I've ever drawn
Always forever is a polygon
If I draw four lines and join them like a box
I've drawn a quadrilateral, four edges like
blocks

I drew a square, with four sides all the same
Right-angled corners like a picture frame
Squares are quadrilaterals, sides join where
corners bend
Ev'ry side's congruent to the one that joins
its end

I drew a diamond, with the same length
sides
All sides congruent, 2 pairs of parallel lines
That's the shape they call a rhombus, but
there's more
It's a quadrilateral – how many sides? There
are four.

My bed's a rectangle, so's a football field
Two sets of equal sides are soon revealed
Rectangular quadrilaterals have right angles
times four
Want to see a rectangle? Then look at any
door

Two sets of sides, one long and one that's
not
That's what a parallelogram's got
All the sides are joined together, opposite
angles are the same
Two pairs of parallel sides, that's how it got
its name

Trapezoids have exactly two parallel sides
Tho' it's not a square, that's just fine
These quadrilaterals are always fun shapes
too
Trapezoids do things no other quadrilaterals
do.

Procedure:

- 1) Play the song. Students will take notes during the song.
- 2) Teacher led discussion on the characteristics of quadrilaterals.
- 3) Teacher will write on the board: square, rectangle, trapezoid, rhombus, quadrilateral, parallelogram
- 4) Students will discuss similarities and differences and record them in their journal while the teacher records on the board.
- 5) Teacher will hold up each of the 4-sided figures to be classified.
- 6) Students get out tangrams.
- 7) Students will make a square, rectangle, trapezoid, rhombus, quadrilateral, parallelogram using 3 pieces, 5 pieces and all 7 pieces; drawing each figure in their journal as they find it.

Evaluation: Teacher feedback during discussion. As students discover the different ways to make the quadrilaterals with tangrams, the students will become more familiar with the similarities and differences between each of the quadrilaterals.