

Circle, Circle Everywhere

Understanding spatial ideas is an important concept for young minds. Basic geometric shapes like circles and squares are all around us and influence our daily movements. The activity below is an excellent introduction to how our physical bodies interact with circles and will attune students to personal body space as well as the possibilities (and limitations) of encountering shapes in our environment. Students will gain insight to spatial principles while exercising their bodies and imaginations.

- (1) Students find circles in the room (find circles with your eyes).
- (2) Make the shape of a circle with your body or move a body part in a circular motion: circle your fingers, circle your wrists, circle your elbows, circle your arms, circle your shoulders, circle your head, circle your eyes, circle your nose, circle your waist, circle your legs, circle your knees, circle your feet, circle your toes.
- (3) Move your whole body in a circle: spin in a circle! Circle fast and circle slow. How slow can you go?
- (4) Make these circles high and make these circles low. Can you stand on your tippy toes and make a circle close to the floor?
- (5) Make a circle together around the room. Hold hands and make a circle. Circle to the right, circle to the left.
- (6) Use paper circles as obstacles in space. Go *over* a circle, go *around* a circle. Duck *under* a circle.

