

## Activity 4 – Exploring and recognising shapes

### Make a shape picture

#### What to do

- Make some shape stencils by drawing them on card and cutting them out, e.g. *circle, square, rectangles and triangles of different types.*
- Show your child how to use the stencils to draw their own shapes. They may need support knowing how to hold the stencil still with one hand while drawing around it with the other. *This can be tricky and may require adult help each time.*
- Together cut out the shapes and talk about the different ones you have made.
- Now your child can make some pictures arranging the shapes and sticking them down when they are happy with their position.

#### What you need

Card, children's scissors, pencil, paper (coloured if possible), paper glue



#### Extension

Do not provide glue. This can be a reusable activity which just needs a small container to keep the pieces in.

Include a greater range of shapes, e.g. *hexagon, octagon, parallelogram*, but focus talk on describing these shapes' properties rather than learning their names.

#### Questions to ask

How can we use a stencil?

What shapes do we have stencils for?

How do we know this is a triangle?

How many points does a square have?

Is this a rectangle or a square? How can we tell?

What different patterns/pictures could you make?

What shape did you use for the hat?