What Is a Square?

Written by Allyn Fisher
Art by Amber Cooper, Dixie McCartney, and MLC production staff
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Printed in the United States of America.

First Printing 2017

This story is excerpted from the read-aloud books included in the Bridges in Mathematics Pre-K curriculum. This math-rich collection features theme-based counting and numeral recognition, sequencing, shapes and locations, and very early addition and subtraction. For more information about these books, including how to order the full printed collection of nine titles, visit store.mathlearningcenter.org bridges-2nd-edition/2bpkread.asp.

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What Is a Square?
A square is a shape with 4 straight sides...

Hey! All 4 sides are the same length!
Let me out of here!

and 4 corners.
This checkerboard is square.

Wow! Look at all those little black and red squares!
This clock is square.

What? Who ever heard of a square clock?
Here are some chocolate squares.

Can you count them?
Squares can be big.

Squares can be little.
Squares can be any color.

A square can sit on its side or on its corner.
Is this a square?
How do you know?

Is this a square?
How do you know?
Where are the squares?
Squares are everywhere!