Lesson: Mining Shapes    Teacher-Author: Jeneen Edgmon
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New Arizona Math Strand 4 Geometry and Measurement Grade Kindergarten
Articulated 4MK1-01 Identify two-dimensional shapes by attribute – size, shape, number of sides.

Old Arizona Math Standard 4 Readiness 1 and 2 Grade Kindergarten
R1 Identify, compare, classify, draw and make models of shapes.
R2 Recognize geometry in their surroundings.

Materials:
Art supplies: string, colored paper, modeling clay, plastic shapes, markers or crayons

Learning Objectives: The student will be able to:
1. recognize and identify geometric shapes as seen everywhere
2. compare, select and classify objects that have specific geometric shapes

Overview:
Students will observe many examples of objects that show specific geometric shapes. After an example of the selecting process, they will have opportunity to compare them and select a matching place for them to reside. That so many examples from a student’s world were used to introduce the lesson brings in the Readiness 2 standard. This lesson has English, Navajo and Spanish narrations and scripts.

Content:
Students will be able to practice multiple skills identifying, comparing, and classifying in this lesson. OK Corral, Branding Shapes and Round-up Shapes should precede Mining Shapes. Mining Shapes was developed to “tie the concepts all together,” as the teacher-author said. There is plenty of opportunity to round out the whole experience to encompass drawing and modeling of the basic geometric shapes. The Navajo Yei lesson should follow Mining Shapes.

Engage students:
A story about shapes, or game of “I Spy” connected to shapes, will open this cumulating lesson directly and help students quickly focus on the concept.

Follow-up and Extensions:
A hands-on selecting and matching activity is suggested. Art projects, such as constructing shapes, drawing shapes and calling them by name continues the learning. Students research the basic geometric shapes in the classroom, favorite areas in the school, and at home. Students relate the attributes of these geometric shapes (memory and discriminatory skills).

Assessment:
After an example of the skill needed, students are given time and many examples of shapes to identify and compare. They must select (match) the correct place for each object that bears a specific geometric shape. The last selection tests all.