



The Greedy Triangle

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Kids will get their early math skills in shape with this bestselling picture book--now available in Scholastic Bookshelf!

Bored and dissatisfied with his life, a triangle visits a local shapeshifter to add another angle to his shape. Poof! He becomes a quadrilateral. But then he gets greedy and keeps adding angles until he's completely transformed. Kids will enjoy this boldly colorful introduction to shapes and basic math concepts.

The Greedy Triangle Details

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ISBN : 9780545042208

Author : Marilyn Burns , Gordon Silveria (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review The Greedy Triangle for online ebook

Ngoc Dang says

This book introduce kids to different shapes. The triangle wanted to be other shapes because he wanted to have more fun. Since the triangle change into other shapes, the book also introduce sides of the shapes.

Kristen Dutkiewicz says

Delivering the message that it is always best to be yourself, The Greedy Triangle also introduces children to various polygons on its journey to discover other shape possibilities.

Gladly, in the end, he realizes staying a triangle is just right!

Amy says

My niece, who is eight, enjoyed this book. It's a fun introduction to geometry cleverly and skillfully disguised as a story about a triangle who is dissatisfied with his same-o same-o life. My niece was absorbed in the book, and she spent time counting the sides and angles on the shape as it changed from a traingle, to a quadrilateral, to a pentagon, etc., etc. She also got a nice little lesson about liking yourself the way you are.

The only downside was that the story got a bit repetitive, which I noticed more when I read it aloud to the kids. Other than that, though, The Greedy Triangle is a well done math-related read.

Amanda says

Fun story that takes kids through a journey of different shapes as a shape takes on an additional side. The end of the book includes some helpful concept teaching information for parents, teachers, and other adults reading with kids!

Lance says

"But his favourite was to slide into place when people put their hands on their hips. That way he got to hear all the gossip before anyone else and got to tell his friends."

This was a fun and creative little book introducing young children to the regular polygons. The role of the triangle and the subsequent shapes which it became make the abstract concepts of geometric shapes more relevant to young children. I also really enjoyed the subversion of the "shapeshifter" and his colourful

scientific methods for adding sides and angles to the triangle. It was an interesting concept and very well pitched at pre-school are children.

I couldn't give this book a higher rating because it was very US-centric in the examples given which will make it difficult for non-US young children to relate to. Also, I wasn't sure what sort of message was being sent out by the triangle's friends ditching him when he became strangely unbalanced by too many sides and angles. It would have been more reassuring to children to have the triangle's friends stick by him through his polygon identity crisis.

Hannah says

This book is interesting. The triangle wants to be better and have MORE sides. A lot of people are like that. This book kind of tells us that more and more things for ourselves, won't really make us happy.

Kitty says

Greedy Triangle is written by Marilyn Burns and illustrated by Gordon Silveria and is part of the Sholastic book range.

The triangle is bored with his shape and asks a shapeshifter to add another angle to his shape....over and over again. He becomes many different shapes until at last he he misses his friends and learns that it's not so bad being a triangle!

This book is great for early learners of maths - Early Years, even KS1, introducing the correct names for geometric shapes.

It challenges children's misconceptions about the position of shapes 'by showing children shapes in many different forms and positions and places them in contexts that make them accessible to children. The illustrations give children a chance to think more flexibly about shapes and how they are used.

There is great potential for extending children's learning - particularly in Early Years with the suggestions in the book such as role play and investigation of the classroom for shapes. It is a good introduction to a creative art activity where the children could tell their own story using various shapes of different sizes.

I have given this book a high rating because of its versatility and its potential to act as a PHSE model to remind children that being greedy is not the way to have fun or keep your friends - love yourself as you are!

Janie says

I haven't read this yet, but I can't figure out how to add a note to it without rating it first. I feel it is important to note that GR advertised this book to me based on my currently reading *Illness as Metaphor and AIDS and Its Metaphors*. I look forward to discovering what a "math" book "for kids" featuring intelligent polygons has in common with Sontag's works.

Shaylee Roberts says

Picture book: I loved this book!! It reminds us to be happy with what we have because we take things for granted too much. Greediness isn't helpful. It's fun to use a math concept in such a colorful book.

Tranylle says

This book is a great way to introduce a lot of shapes to your kids. Everyone teaches the basics, but familiarizing them with polygons is important as well. It also gave great examples of where you can find many of the shapes. It also gave a nice message about being yourself.

Andy says

Cute story about a bored triangle who would like to add extra sides and angles. As the triangle changes shape it discovers there are many things that each new figure can do. Great way to introduce geometry and shapes to students. Appropriate for grades two to four.

Tracey says

****All reviews can be found at drhodesreads.blogspot.com****

This book is so much fun and also aligns to my previous discussion of accepting yourself. In this book, we meet a triangle who desperately wants more sides. Throughout the book, he gains more sides until he becomes a circle and realizes, he wishes he were a triangle again.

The vocabulary in this book is in a class on its own. I love that the author uses complex vocabulary such as "polygon" and defines it for young readers. Students can learn about shapes and math terminology, while learning an important lesson about being their self.

Jessie says

This introduces polygons and their names from triangle through decagon, and it highlights where shapes (triangle through hexagon, mainly) are seen in everyday life.

It shows shapes in lots of orientations, which was nice.

*The triangles are most isosceles.

*The quadrilaterals for the main character are all rectangles and mostly squares, though there is a rhombus character, as well.

*The pentagons are mostly regular or have two adjacent right angles.

*The hexagons and higher are regular.

Stefanie Burns says

Fun Math oriented book where one day a triangle becomes unhappy with his shape. He's bored. He sees a shapeshifter who turns him into a quadrilateral. After awhile, he becomes bored with this new shape and wants another change. Unsurprisingly, at the end, he likes being a triangle best. Message to this story: the grass is not always greener.

Throughout the story, real world items in the various shapes are pointed out and students will like finding the shapes in the illustrations. I like that Math vocabulary such as quadrilateral is used. There is a long note in the back "For Parents, Teachers, and Other Adults" that explains the Math and extends the learning. Fun way to incorporate Math with younger students.

Sara Lynn says

1. Genre: Picture Book/Concept (Shapes)

2. Summary: The little triangle loved to interact with others and to always know the town gossip, until one day he decided that he no longer wanted to be a triangle. After several trips to the shapeshifter, and after taking the form of many different shapes, the little triangle learned that he loved who he was after all.

3. Critique:

a. One of the greatest strengths of this story is the use of descriptive illustrations to support the text.

b. The title character begins to become bored after living the life of a triangle for all of his days. He decides that a trip to the local shapeshifter will solve all of his problems. The illustrator, Gordon Silveria, provides the reader with realistic images of the little triangle, and all of his other shape friends, in everyday life experiences. The reader is able to visualize items from their average day, which incorporate all of these different shapes, thanks to Silveria's work.

c. On pages seven and eight, the little triangle, who is now a quadrilateral, takes the shape of a television set, a picture frame, and a computer screen. All of these items provide the reader with realistic examples of where they can find quadrilaterals in their own lives. As a pentagon, the little triangle now takes the shape of a baseball diamond, a portion of a soccer ball, and even the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. (p. 13-14). The examples continue throughout the entire story, not only providing the reader with descriptive details through text, but also through images in the illustrations.

4. Curriculum Connection: This story has an obvious connection to mathematics and geometry for children of many ages. Teachers can use this story to discuss simplistic shapes, such as the square, triangle, and circle, with primary grade students. The teachers can then extend children's learning by discussing shapes beyond those already mentioned, as well as creating exciting and fun activities for their students. One great activity that teachers could utilize in their classroom is to have students create a triangle, just the like the king and queen in the story, by having students place their hands on their hips. With a partner, they could then trace the triangle that this action creates. Teachers could also take their students on a walk through the school to

try and find some of these shapes in real life, just like in the story.
