**Sponge Paint Shapes**

**Activity:** Children will sponge paint various shapes on easel paper.

**Objective**
The children will become familiar with the names of various shapes in their environment.

**Targeted Standards**
V. Mathematical Thinking
V.D.1. Recognizes and names two-dimensional shapes (circle, square, triangle and rectangle) of different size and orientation
http://www.floel.org/standardsresource/standards.html#d=V&a=four_year_olds

**Procedures**
Lesson
1. Cut out various shapes from sponges (e.g., circle, triangle, square, rectangle, and oval).
2. Place a clothespin on the top of each sponge shape for the children to grasp as they handle the wet sponge.
3. Place newspaper over a table for easy clean-up.
4. Fill pie pans or trays with paint and place them on the table.
5. Place the shape sponges on the table.
6. Introduce the lesson by reading the book *Shapes, Shapes and Shapes* by Tana Hoban.
7. Discuss/name the shapes presented in the book.
8. Help the children find two-dimensional shapes around the classroom.
9. Give each child a paint smock.
10. Pass out a large sheet of easel paper to each child.
11. Allow children to dip a sponge into the paint and stamp that shape on their paper.
12. The children can make designs with one or more shapes.
13. Question/Discussion points to ask/use during the lesson:
   - What is the name of this shape?
   - Describe what it looks like (e.g., it is round, circle; it has three corners, triangle).

**Materials Needed**
- Paint smocks, sponges cut into various shapes and sizes, clothespins, easel paper, paint, pie pans or trays
- Books:
  - *Shapes, Shapes and Shapes* by Rana Hoban
  - *There’s a Square: A Book About Shapes* by Mary Serfozo

**Checking for Understanding**
Children will demonstrate their understanding of the lesson by:
- naming the various shapes introduced in the lesson
- finding a shape in the environment as it is described.

**Scaffolding**
- Select only 2 shapes for children to use and focus on their individual shapes, noting the number and length of sides.

**Extensions**
- **Dramatic Play:** Create a bakery. Include a variety of items (e.g., play dough, cookie cutters in various shapes, round, square and rectangular pans).
- **Cooking:** Provide cream cheese with a variety of shape snacks (e.g., round, square, and triangle shaped crackers).
- **Math:** Sort and classify shapes.