

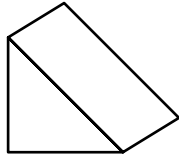


About the Mathematics in This Unit (page 1 of 2)

Dear Family,

We are beginning a new unit in mathematics called *Blocks and Boxes*. This second geometry unit in Grade 1 focuses on 3-D shapes. Students describe, compare, build with, and represent Geoblocks—a set of related three-dimensional wooden blocks that includes cubes, rectangular prisms, triangular prisms, and pyramids. They also explore the relationship between 3-D shapes and 2-D shapes as they build 3-D boxes from 2-D index cards, search for the 3-D block shown in a 2-D photograph, and attempt to draw a Geoblock building (or build one), given a 2-D drawing. Students also use the Geoblocks to construct buildings and then write directions for routes around their class town (e.g., Go north one block, turn east, and go east two blocks.).

Throughout this unit, students will work toward these goals:

BENCHMARKS/ GOALS	EXAMPLES
Attend to features of 3-D shapes, such as overall size and shape, the number and shape of faces, and the number of corners.	 <p>It has 6 corners or points. It has 5 faces or sides. Two of the faces are triangles. The other faces are rectangles.</p>

(continued)



About the Mathematics in This Unit (page 2 of 2)

BENCHMARKS/ GOALS	EXAMPLES
Match a 2-D representation to a 3-D shape or structure.	

Students will continue to engage in math problems and activities and share how they solve a given problem. At home, you can encourage your children to explain their math thinking as they engage in activities that further support the mathematics in this unit.