

1

You choose the feature

Give a tray of twelve shapes in mixed colours and sizes with two empty hoops and no rule. Every shape goes into a group, and each group holds only shapes that share the feature chosen.

"Sort these shapes into two groups. You choose the feature."

"Is there anything left over? Where does it go?"

2

Tell me your rule

With the sort finished, ask for the rule in words. If nothing comes, have the student pick up two shapes from the same group and say what is the same about them, then ask again.

"Tell me the rule you used."

"Pick up two from this group. What is the same about them?"

3

Sort them again

Gather the twelve back into one pile and ask for a second sort on a different feature. Name two features aloud if the student is stuck and ask them to choose the one they have not used.

"Sort them again a different way."

"What did you sort on this time?"

4

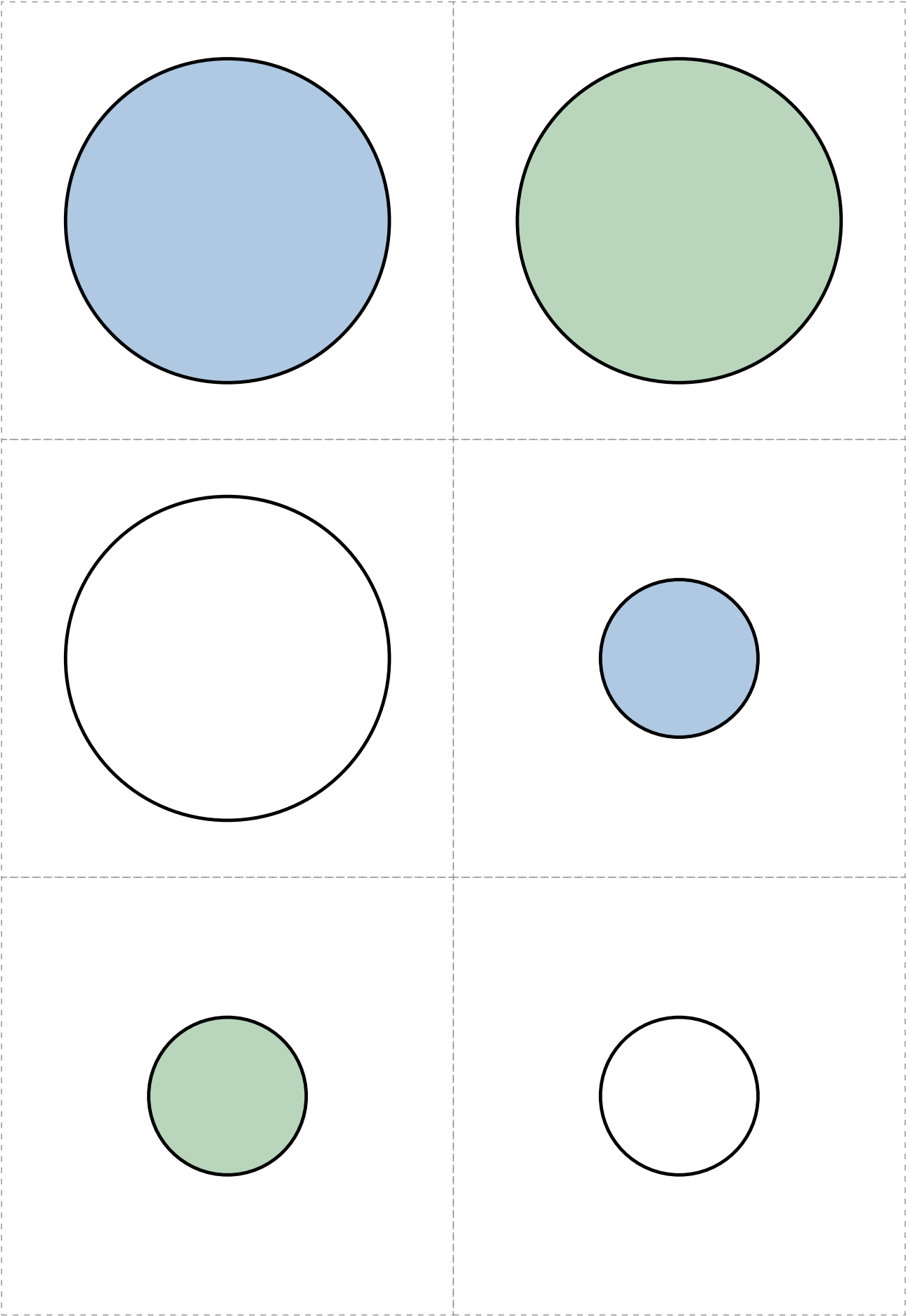
Rule card stations

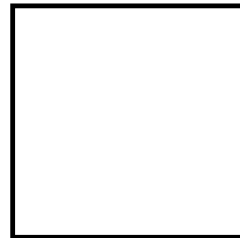
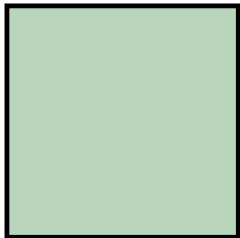
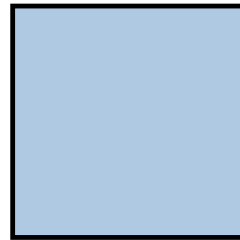
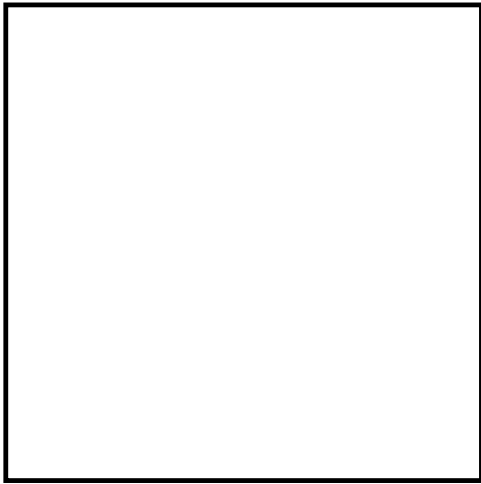
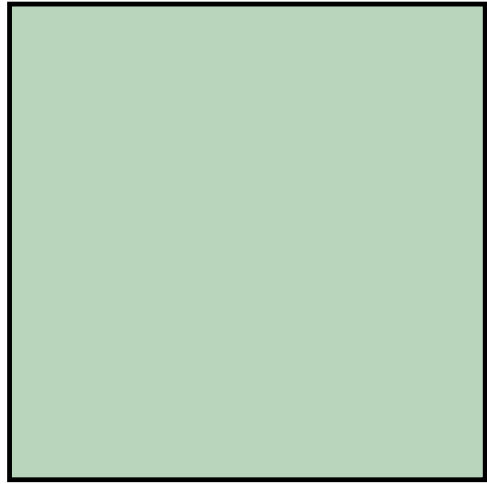
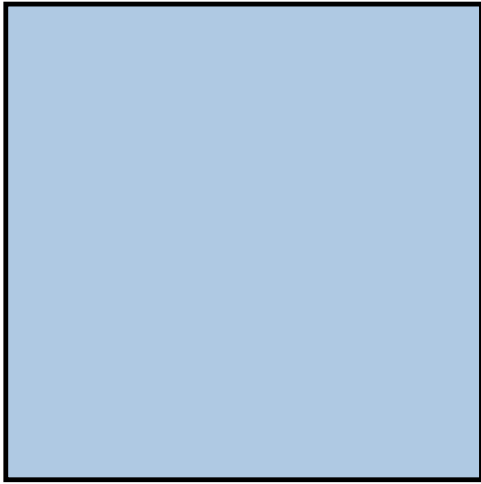
Put a rule card at each station with a tray of shapes. Pairs sort to the card, then move on. The blank cards let a group set a rule of their own for the next pair to sort to.

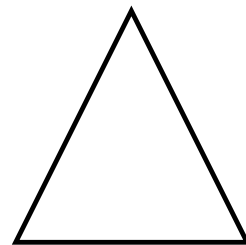
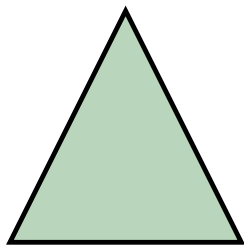
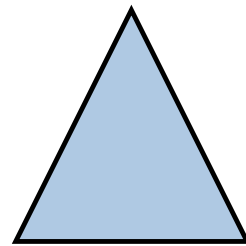
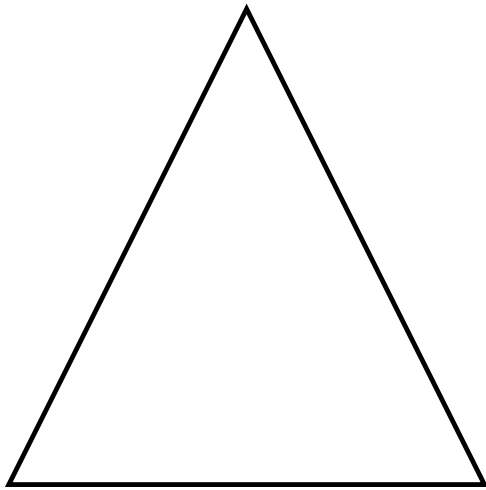
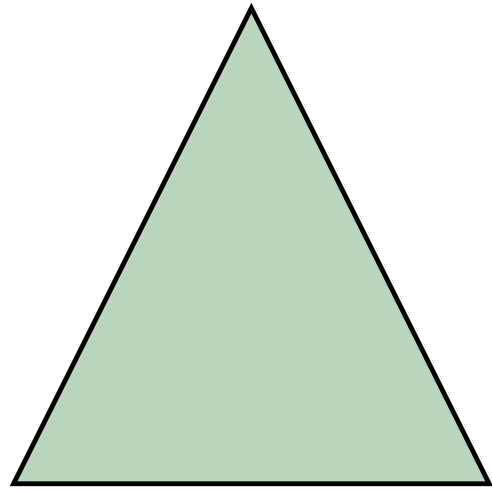
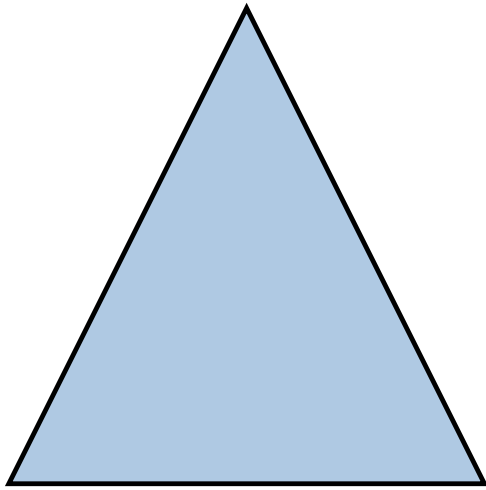
"Sort the tray to the rule on the card."

"Write a rule of your own for the next pair."

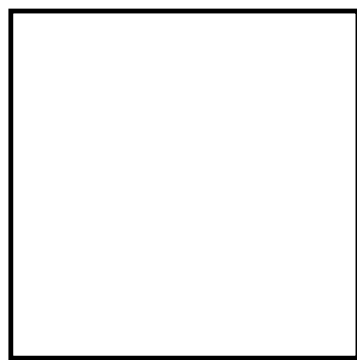
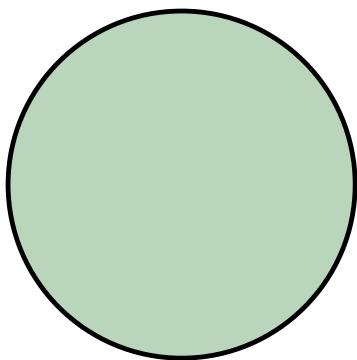
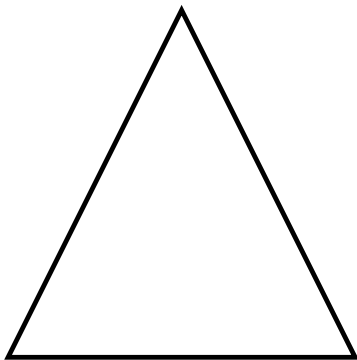
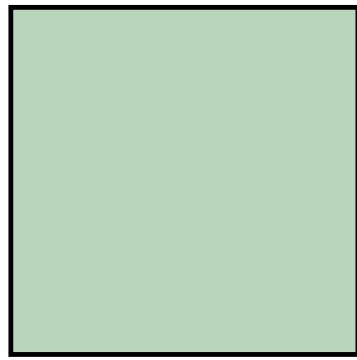
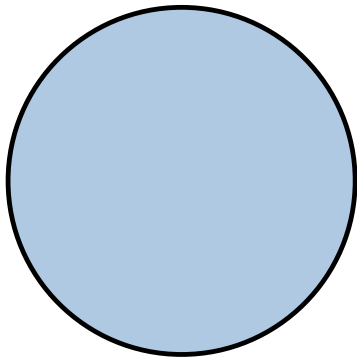
This activity should be done with a set of concrete shapes like these.

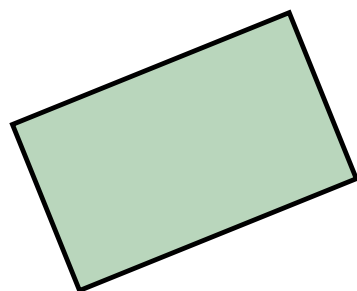
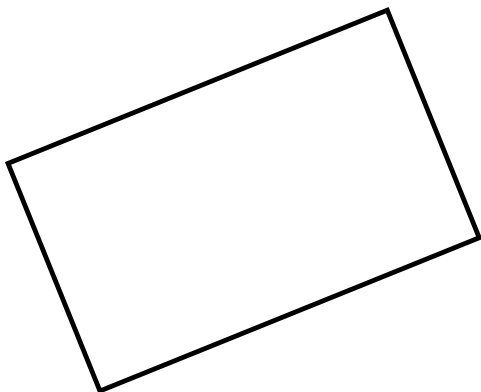
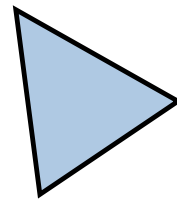
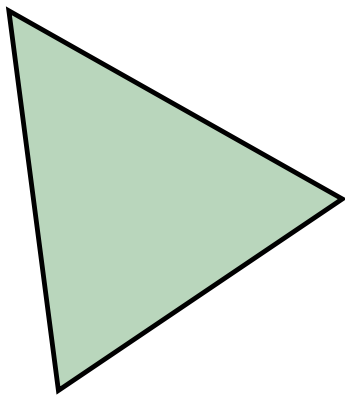
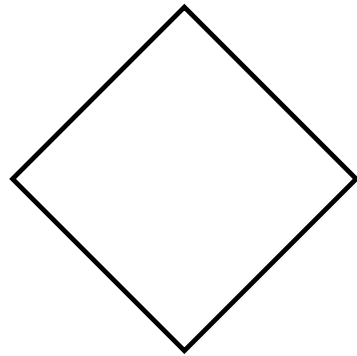
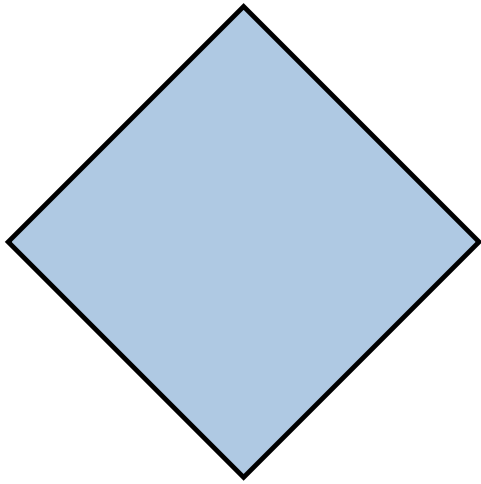


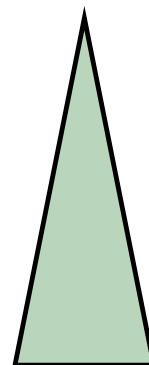
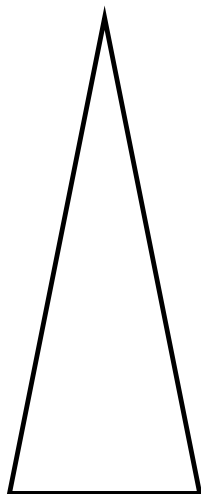
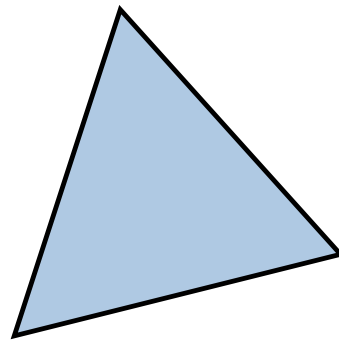
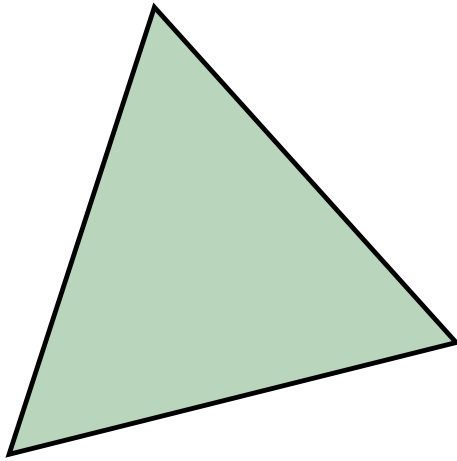


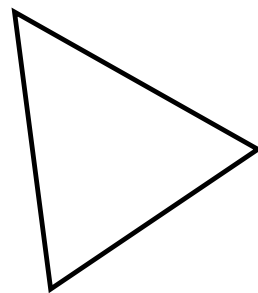
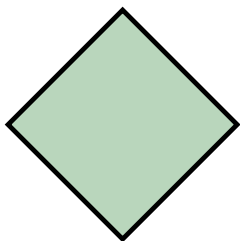
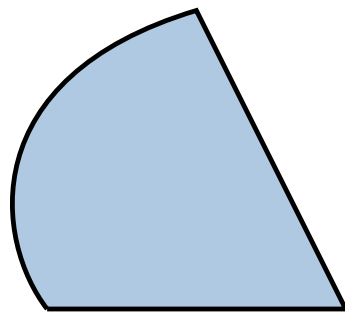
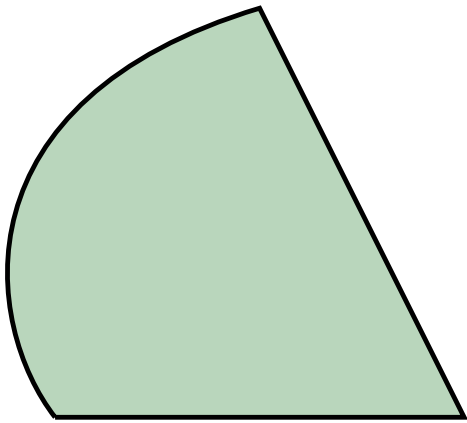
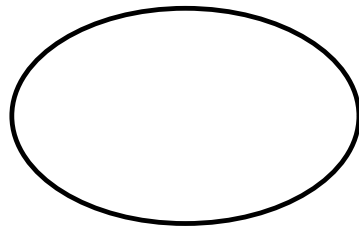
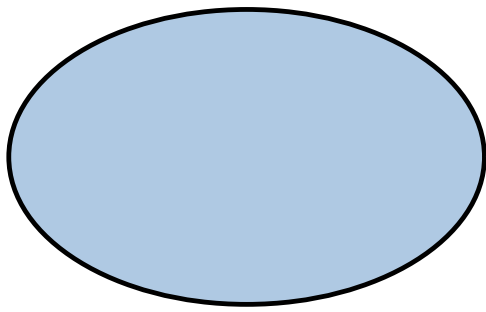












Rule cards

straight sides

a curved side

three sides

four sides

all sides the same

sides not all the same

big

small

corners

no corners

blue

green

Blank cards for rules the class chooses
