

Title of Book: Sam Johnson and the Blue Ribbon Quilt
Author: Lisa Campbell Ernst
Publisher/Year: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1983
ISBN: 978-0-688-11505-0

Grade Levels for Recommended Use: 3-4

TEKS:

3.6 Geometry and measurement. The student applies mathematical process standards to analyze attributes of two-dimensional geometric figures to develop generalizations about their properties. The student is expected to:

- (A) classify and sort two- and three-dimensional figures, including cones, cylinders, spheres, triangular and rectangular prisms, and cubes, based on attributes using formal geometric language;
- (B) use attributes to recognize rhombuses, parallelograms, trapezoids, rectangles, and squares as examples of quadrilaterals and draw examples of quadrilaterals that do not belong to any of these subcategories;

4.6 Geometry and measurement. The student applies mathematical process standards to analyze geometric attributes in order to develop generalizations about their properties. The student is expected to:

- (A) identify points, lines, line segments, rays, angles, and perpendicular and parallel lines;
- (B) identify and draw one or more lines of symmetry, if they exist, for a two-dimensional figure;
- (C) apply knowledge of right angles to identify acute, right, and obtuse triangles;
- (D) classify two-dimensional figures based on the presence or absence of parallel or perpendicular lines or the presence or absence of angles of a specified size.

Brief Summary: Sam discovers that he enjoys sewing while mending an awning that covers the pig pen. He attempts to join his wife's quilting club but is met with ridicule, so he gathers the town's men and starts his own quilting club. An unfortunate event occurs causing the two quilting clubs to have to work together to mend their quilts.

Materials needed: 6 inch squares of white construction paper (1 per student), 3 inch squares of dark construction paper (2 per student), 3 inch squares of light construction paper (2 per student), scissors (1 per student), glue sticks or liquid glue, notebook paper

Suggested Activity:

1. Read *Sam Johnson and the Blue Ribbon Quilt* by Lisa Campbell Ernst.
2. Pass out the listed construction paper materials and scissors to each student.
3. Instruct students to fold each colored square on the diagonal and cut on the fold to make triangles.
4. Discuss that all of the triangles will be *congruent*. Ask student what congruent means and discuss student responses.
5. Instruct students to take all of their triangles and fit them together however they would like into the white construction paper square without any of the pieces overlapping. DO NOT glue down. Explain that it's like a puzzle and that everyone's solution may look different.
6. Once all students have created a design, group four students together. Ask them to decide who's design they like the best from their group and then have all members of the group create that same design (each group can have a different design).
7. Pass out the glue sticks or liquid glue. Have each group of students glue down their agreed upon design.
8. Instruct students to take the four completed squares from their group and put them together to form one large square (making a mini quilt). Tape or glue the four pieces together.
9. Ask students to share geometrical observations about the quilts they just made. For example: It has parallel lines. It has right triangles. I see lots of quadrilaterals., It has two lines of symmetry., etc.
10. Instruct each group to work together to make a list of as many geometric observations about their quilt as they can on a sheet of notebook paper.
11. Once students have finished their lists, discuss the features of a riddle. Explain to students that as a group, they will work together to name their quilt design and then write a riddle using the observations they brainstormed.
12. Once all riddles are written, collect all of the quilt patterns and display on the wall. Have each group read their riddle to the class and let students try to match the riddle to the correct quilt.

References: Lesson adapted from:

Bresser, R. (2004). *Math and literature, grades 4-6 (2nd ed.)*. Sausalito, CA: Math Solutions.

Adapted by: Kimberly Jones (2018)

When Sam Johnson inadvertently discovers how much fun sewing can be, he tries to join the Rosedale Women's Quilting Club. "Don't be silly," the club president says. "We can't have a man here bungling everything!" But Sam Johnson won't take no for an answer. He organizes a rival sewing circle -- and no women need apply. show more. Product details. For ages 6-8.Â We're featuring millions of their reader ratings on our book pages to help you find your new favourite book. Close X. Learn about new offers and get more deals by joining our newsletter. Synopsis of story: One morning Sam Johnson discovers that the awning over his pig pen is torn. His wife is out of town, so that evening he sits down to mend the tear himself. It turns out that he really enjoys sewing and before long he has sewn a wonderful and creative patch. At least he thinks so. His wife is less impressed and lets him know that she feels sewing and quilting is no work for a man. Soon Sam gathers the men of the town into a male quilting club! Together they create a Flying Geese quilt.Â They enter their "Flying Sailboats" quilt and it wins the blue ribbon for the "just plain Rosedale Quilting Club." Lesson plan age level: Primary (5-11) but can be appreciated by all ages, including adults. Lesson focus: Equality, integrity. Most can't afford to give, but we hope you can. The average donation is \$45. If everyone reading this chips in just \$5, we can keep this website going for free, and free of ads. That's right, all we need is the price of a paperback book to sustain a non-profit website the whole world depends on. For 23 years this has been my dream: for a generation of learners who turn to their screens for answers, I want to put the very best information at their fingertips. We stand with Wikipedians, librarians and creators to make sure there is enduring access to the world's most trustworthy knowledge.

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