



Defining vs Non-Defining Attributes

Today's Standard

1.G.A1 - Distinguish between defining attributes (e.g., triangles are closed and three-sided) versus non-defining attributes (e.g., color, orientation, overall size); build and draw shapes to possess defining attributes.

| Cues | Notes |
|-------------------------|---|
| Defining attributes | Defining attributes are the essential characteristics of a shape (e.g., number of sides, being closed). |
| Non-defining attributes | Non-defining attributes are characteristics like color, size, or orientation that do not change the identity of the shape. |
| Examples | |
| Non-examples | Examples of defining attributes: A triangle is three-sided and closed. |
| Shape orientation | Non-examples: A triangle's color or size does not define it. Shape orientation: A shape remains the same regardless of how it is turned. |

Summary

Understanding the difference between defining and non-defining attributes of shapes helps students accurately identify and categorize shapes. This knowledge is foundational for more advanced geometric concepts.