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.

Real-World Applications for this Standard

Identifying shapes in everyday objects (e.g., a triangular road sign); Drawing shapes to match specific attributes; Sorting shapes based on defining attributes; Building shapes with construction toys; Creating art projects that focus on shape attributes

Today I Learned

Today, we learned about the different attributes of shapes. Defining attributes are the important parts that make a shape what it is, like how a triangle has three sides. Non-defining attributes are things like color or size that don't change what the shape is.

Common Stumbling Blocks

Sometimes kids think that the color or size of a shape is important for identifying it, but that's not true. Another common mistake is thinking that turning a shape changes what it is. A triangle is still a triangle, even if it's upside down!

Quiz Me

- What makes a triangle a triangle?
- Does the color of a shape change what it is?
- Can a square be turned and still be a square?
- What are defining attributes?
- What are non-defining attributes?

Help Me

Shapes are all around us! A triangle is always a triangle if it has three sides and is closed. It doesn't matter what color it is or how big it is. Even if you turn it, it's still a triangle. Look for shapes around you and see if you

can find their defining attributes!