

Triangle

READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Humor, Friendship, Shapes

Book Brief: Meet Triangle, who plans to play a sneaky trick on his friend, Square. In this clever and funny story by Mac Barnett and Jon Klassen, readers will wonder who they can really trust in a world full of shapes.

Author:
Mac Barnett

Illustrator:
Jon Klassen



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about the shapes.

Prior Knowledge: Ask students, "Think of objects that are shaped like triangles. Compare your answers with a neighbors."

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "Let's read to find out how two friends play funny, sneaky tricks on each other!"

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- What do you notice about the land around Triangle?
- Describe the shapes Triangle sees on his way to Square's house. Based on the pictures, what shape do you think lives between Triangle's and Square's houses? Why?
- What happens when Triangle visits Square's house?



Think Aloud: Point to Triangle's door and say, "I notice Triangle's door is shaped like a triangle. I wonder how his friends will fit through his door?"

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: Triangle thought he was playing a sneaky trick on square. What did Square do as a result?

Extending Our Thinking: Using [RIF's Create A Character](#), Have students draw their own shape and house and write a short description or story about them. Invite students to present their characters to the class, explaining what makes their character's shape and house.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more humorous titles by Mac Barnett:
 - [Extra Yarn](#) (2012)
 - [Sam and Dave Dig a Hole](#) (2014)
 - [Skunk A Picture Book](#) (2015)