LOAD BEARING SHAPES

Which shape is the strongest? Circle, Triangle, or Square

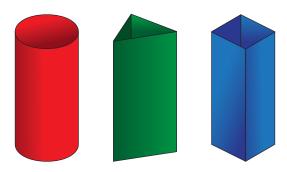
In this activity, students will learn which shaped column will hold the most weight.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- 3 sheets of regular 8½" x 11" paper
- tape
- · assorted light-weight books

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Form three sheets of regular $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x 11" paper into columns shaped like a circle, triangle, and square and secure each with tape.



- 2. Ask the students which shape they think will hold the most weight when in an upright position.
- 3. Slowly stack similarly sized books on top of each shape to see which will hold the most.
- 4. Start with smaller, light-weight books and, perhaps challenge student to try different shapes and sizes of books to determine impact.



