Yes or No?

Children ask yes or no questions to identify a hidden, three-dimensional shape.

Cloth bags, or boxes with hand-sized hole in the top

Collection of geometric, three-dimensional shapes (e.g. cone, rectangular prism, cube, sphere, cylinder, pyramid)



Preparation

 Place a collection of geometric, threedimensional shapes in a bag or box.
Make one for each group. For the extension activity, make one for each pair.



Activity

Note: This activity is best for a small group with an adult as the leader.

Have the children take turns to place their hand in the bag and hold one of the three-dimensional shapes. If the child is uncertain which shape they have, they can check with the adult. Ensure the other children do not see the shape. The children then ask yes or no questions to identify the three-dimensional shape. Encourage children to ask whether the shape has straight or curved surfaces, and whether it rolls or stacks. When a child correctly guesses the three-dimensional shape, remove the shape. That child gets to place their hand in the bag and hold a new shape for the children to guess.



Extension

Distribute more shape bags and have the children play the game in pairs. Encourage them to use appropriate language to describe the attributes of three-dimensional shapes.

Repeat the activity later in the year, encouraging the children to ask more complex questions about the numbers of edges, faces, and corners.