

Discover Art

WITH NEWFIELDS



Above: Richard Pousette-Dart (American, 1916–1992), *Cathedral*, 1990, bronze, 120 × 120 × 11 in. Indianapolis Museum of Art at Newfields, Gift of Robert S. Ashby, Susan Gatch Ashby and Richard Pousette-Dart, 1991.40 © 2021 Richard Pousette-Dart/Artists Rights Society (ARS).

 When you see this color, click it!

→ ABOUT THE ARTIST

○ Pousette-Dart began painting at the age of 8 and was even featured in the *New York Times* when he was just 10. His parents were artists too and helped inspire his career! He's known as an abstract expressionist artist.

○ Abstract expressionist art is made of lines, shapes, and colors combined in any way the artist wants. Abstract expres-

sionists often don't show real objects in their works. Instead, they create images that show how they feel!

○ He was deeply interested in the spiritual aspects of African, Oceanic, and Native American art and most of his artwork applies these ideas.

A Cathedral of Shapes

→ CHALLENGE YOURSELF

○ How many different shapes can you find on this sculpture? Make a list as you go.

○ Can you find any of those same shapes in your room? Put a check mark next to the shapes you were able to find.

○ Why is this artwork called *Cathedral*? **Look at this real-life cathedral from our collection**...what similarities can you find between this sculpture and buildings described as cathedrals? Pay close attention to the lines and shapes. Zoom in to look at all the detail!

→ SHARE IDEAS

○ With a partner, cut out the shapes you found on the sculpture using some scrap paper and scissors. Work together to recreate the patterns you

see on the sculpture. How does it look? Are you missing any shapes? Go back and look for more you might have missed.

→ BE CREATIVE

○ It's your turn to create! Can you make your favorite animal using shapes? What about a flower or tree? Use this online activity at **Mathigon** to explore making pictures with tangrams. Notice how these smaller shapes can be put together to make bigger shapes!

○ Try to show your feelings with shapes. Can you create the sentence "I am happy"

using shapes? What shapes would you use to show that you are happy? Draw these shapes to express your feeling, and then add colors and lines to create your masterpiece!



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