Side Count Sort

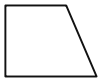
Look closely at the number of straight sides.

CCSS.Math.Content.3.G.A.1 "Understand that shapes in different categories (e.g., rhombuses, rectangles, and others) may share attributes (e.g., having four sides), and that the shared attributes can define a larger category (e.g., quadrilaterals)..."

NAME _____ DATE _____

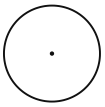
HAS FOUR SIDES

A shape with exactly four straight sides belongs here. Shapes with four sides are called quadrilaterals.

Example: a right trapezoid 

DOES NOT HAVE FOUR SIDES

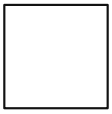
A shape that does not have exactly four straight sides belongs here. It may have fewer sides, more sides, or no straight sides.

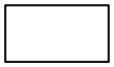
Example: a circle 

1 SORT

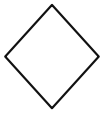
8 items

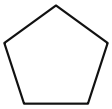
Circle FOUR SIDES or NOT FOUR for each figure, then pick two figures and explain how you knew where each belongs.

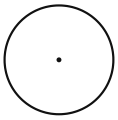
1.  Figure 1 — FOUR SIDES / NOT FOUR

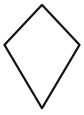
2.  Figure 2 — FOUR SIDES / NOT FOUR

3.  Figure 3 — FOUR SIDES / NOT FOUR

4.  Figure 4 — FOUR SIDES / NOT FOUR

5.  Figure 5 — FOUR SIDES / NOT FOUR

6.  Figure 6 — FOUR SIDES / NOT FOUR

7.  Figure 7 — FOUR SIDES / NOT FOUR

8.  Figure 8 — FOUR SIDES / NOT FOUR

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Draw one new shape for FOUR SIDES and one new shape for NOT FOUR.

FOUR SIDES

NOT FOUR

CHALLENGE

Draw a four-sided shape that is not a rectangle, rhombus, or square.

ANSWER KEY

Side Count Sort

GRADE 3 · 3.G.A.1

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Figure 1 (square)	**FOUR SIDES**	A square has 4 straight sides.
2	Figure 2 (rectangle)	**FOUR SIDES**	A rectangle has 4 straight sides.
3	Figure 3 (triangle)	**NOT FOUR**	A triangle has 3 straight sides.
4	Figure 4 (rhombus)	**FOUR SIDES**	A rhombus has 4 straight sides.
5	Figure 5 (pentagon)	**NOT FOUR**	A pentagon has 5 straight sides.
6	Figure 6 (circle)	**NOT FOUR**	A circle has no straight sides.
7	Figure 7 (kite)	**FOUR SIDES**	A kite has 4 straight sides.
8	Figure 8 (parallelogram)	**FOUR SIDES**	A parallelogram has 4 straight sides.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **FOUR SIDES**: a trapezoid
- **NOT FOUR**: an octagon

Challenge: A kite with two pairs of equal neighboring sides, with one pair longer than the other.

For the prove-it responses, accept a correct count of straight sides for any two chosen figures. Four-sided figures are 1, 2, 4, 7, and 8. Figures 3, 5, and 6 do not have four straight sides.