

by Joyce Sidman



# Reader's Guide

for use at home or in a group

#### SUGGESTIONS FOR READING ALOUD

Round is a book about circular and spherical shapes in nature. As you are reading, encourage listeners to find round things on each page and identify what they are. If you are with a group of children, gather them in a circle before beginning to read.

# Questions to Ask Before Reading:

- 1. What does the word "round" mean?
- 2. What is round on the cover of this book?
- 3. Can you think of anything else that is round like the moon?

#### Questions after Reading:

- 1. What words did the author use to describe round things (*curve, smooth, swell, roll*)? What other words would you use?
- 2. Can you see any round things in this room?
- 3. Why did we gather in a circle today? Why is a circle a good shape for listening?

#### **ACTIVITIES**

- ❖ Have kids bring in something round from home. Discuss: why is it round and not another shape? Talk about "flat" (2-D) round things—circles; and "fat" (3-D) round things—spheres.
- ❖ Nature exploration: collect round things in nature and display them—stones, fruit, pine cones, shells, insect galls, nuts. Let children handle and investigate them. Why are they round? Go on a nature walk outside and see how many more they can collect.
- \* ROUND DAY: after collecting lots of round things, stage a "Round Day" event. Set up tables around the room for different activities:
  - o Feature your collected round objects on one table.
  - o Supply small round bubble dispensers on another.
  - o Provide circle templates (see attached) and crayons for drawing different round things—fruit, faces, planets, clocks, etc.
  - o For the very young, use dotted templates (see attached) to practice drawing a circle.
  - o Paint rounded stones.
  - o Try a yoga activity like Child's Pose to make your body round.
  - Hold hands in a circle "with no one left out."

#### **ART PROJECT**

# **Printing With Circles**

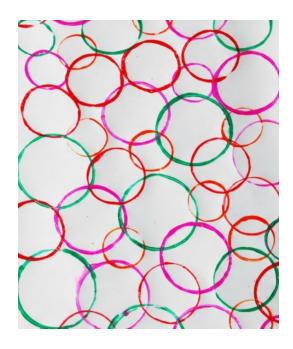
A simple printing activity to explore the beauty and impact of circles.

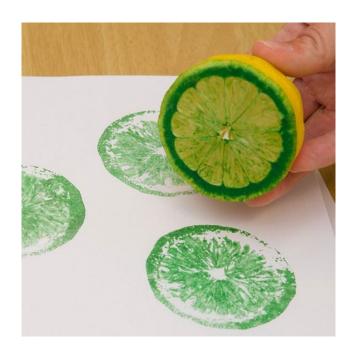
# You will need:

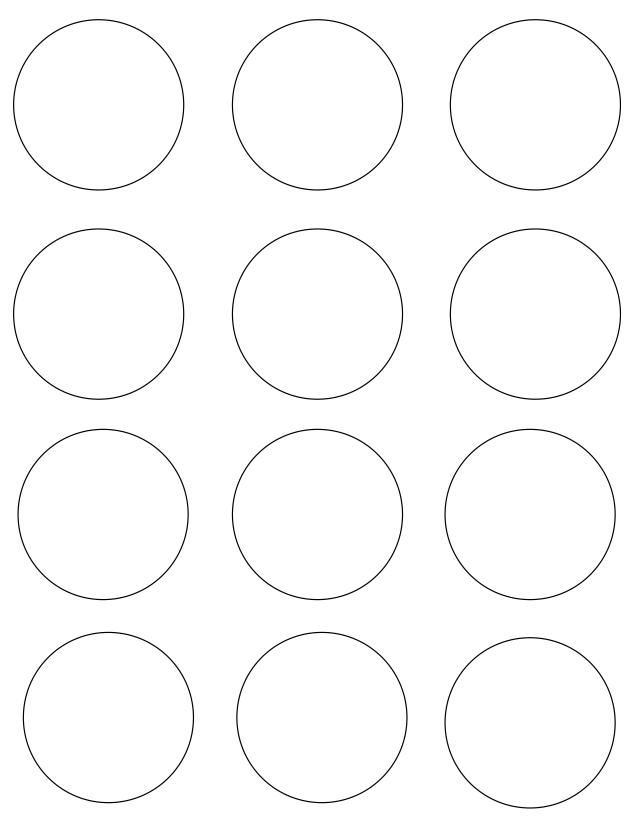
- o large easel paper
- o disposable cups and bottle caps in various sizes
- o tempera or finger paint in various colors
- o paper plates
- 1. Use a paper plate to set up a palette. Squirt some colors of paint onto the paper plate and spread them around a bit, careful not to mix the colors.
- 2. Grab any one of the cups or bottle caps, dip its round rim into the paint, and print several circles. Repeat the process with different sized cups and colors of paint. Overlapping is fine! Repeat with a third color. Try to fill the entire page with circles. Make any design you want! These large paintings can be hung on the wall or used as wrapping paper.

# **Printing with Fruit**

You can also make this kind of painting with fruit or vegetables. Slice in half lemons, apples, carrots, potatoes or onions. Dip the cut sides in paint; then print. Also makes great wrapping paper!







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# Drawing Circles Trace the circles.

