

Go, Shapes, Go!

By Denise Fleming

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Join a group of fun-loving shapes as they collaborate and create in this picture book from a Caldecott Honoree.

Come along on a creative adventure with a gang of saucy shapes—and a mischievous mouse who wants to play too. Meet circles, rectangles, ovals, arcs, and a triangle and a square as well. Wait till you see what this crowd can make when they’re all working together!

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Go, Shapes, Go! By Denise Fleming Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal
PreS-Gr 1—Pulp painting and collage art prevail in this creative game. On the first spread, a motorized mouse figure instructs shapes—a small arc, triangle, oval, large arc, circle, two small ovals, two tiny circles, two big rectangles, two thin rectangles, and a square—to rearrange themselves piece by piece to form a monkey. Mouse and Monkey accidentally collide, and the pieces assemble into a cat, then quickly return to the intended form. Fleming's active verbs (bounce, slide, slither, flip) create verbal energy to reflect the visual fun that keeps fresh with varying colored backgrounds. Readers can seek and find the shapes on each page, and assembling them in different ways creates an engaging interactive experience.—Gay Lynn Van Vleck, Henrico County Library, Glen Allen, VA

Review
"Fleming's signature pulp-painted backgrounds set the stage for a performance featuring an assemblage of shapes; created from patterned handmade papers, the forms are choreographed in their activity by a madcap mouse on wheels. . . . Children will enjoy predicting at various points in the narrative. . . . Motion lines drawn with pastels combine with expressive verbs, rhyming couplets and playful phrases to animate the narrative: "Bibbity bop!" Although Fleming presents a veritable smorgasbord of early learning (shapes, colors, directions and concepts), there is also a dramatic arc with tension and humor. . . . The title will surely inspire children to create and deconstruct their own geometric dramas." (Kirkus Reviews, August 2014)

Pulp painting and collage art prevail in this creative game. On the first spread, a motorized mouse figure instructs shapes—a small arc, triangle, oval, large arc, circle, two small ovals, two tiny circles, two big rectangles, two thin rectangles, and a square—to rearrange themselves piece by piece to form a monkey. Mouse and Monkey accidentally collide, and the pieces assemble into a cat, then quickly return to the intended form. Fleming’s active verbs (bounce, slide, slither, flip) create verbal energy to reflect the visual fun that keeps fresh with varying colored backgrounds. Readers can seek and find the shapes on each page, and assembling them in different ways creates an engaging interactive experience.–Gay Lynn Van Vleck, Henrico County Library, Glen Allen, VA (School Library Journal September 10, 2014)

In this early concept book created by the masterful Fleming, a mouse ringmaster opens the shenanigans: “SHAPES are in place and ready to go!” An assortment of neatly labeled shapes such as ovals, circles, and rectangles are featured on the next page. Then the fun gets started: “Slide, SQUARE, and start the show!” Other actions include “Bounce, OVAL, up and down” and “Roll, CIRCLE, round and round.” Kids will likely wiggle around, too, as they learn the shapes and act out the motions in the rhyming directives. As the shapes combine, a figure emerges: a monkey! He looks delighted, but the mouse looses control, careening across the page, and crashes into the monkey, sending the individual pieces flying. Tots will collapse in peals of laughter. If the end feels a bit rushed—after a cat is created, the mouse seems to have sudden success rebuilding the monkey—this is still bound to be a repeat favorite. (Booklist October 2014)

In this early concept book created by the masterful Fleming, a mouse ringmaster opens the shenanigans: “SHAPES are in place and ready to go!” An assortment of neatly labeled shapes such as ovals, circles, and rectangles are featured on the next page. Then the fun gets started: “Slide, SQUARE, and start the show!” Other actions include “Bounce, OVAL, up and down” and “Roll, CIRCLE, round and round.” Kids will likely wiggle around, too, as they learn the shapes and act out the motions in the rhyming directives. As the shapes combine, a figure emerges: a monkey! He looks delighted, but the mouse looses control, careening across the page, and crashes into the monkey, sending the individual pieces flying. Tots will collapse in peals

of laughter...bound to be a repeat favorite. (Booklist 10/1/14)

A little mouse on wheels directs labeled geometric elements to gradually assemble themselves into a monkey figure: “Bounce, OVAL, up and down./ Roll, CIRCLE, round and round.” When the mouse accidentally knocks down the assembled monkey, sending the shapes flying, they reassemble themselves not as a monkey but a cat, who chases the mouse until he makes another monkey out of new shapes. The rhyming text is contrived and sometimes awkward, and the ending is puzzling (the reassembled monkey’s parts are components that weren’t part of the original monkey). Nonetheless, the liveliness of the mouse’s edicts and the visual breakdown of the way a larger, complex figure can be crafted by combining individual shapes will garner audience attention. The illustrations, which feature backgrounds poured by Fleming, cut shapes from handmade paper, and pastel accents, are somewhat reminiscent of the work of Lois Ehlert, down to the labeling for each shape. Some of the background colors unfortunately don’t offer sufficient contrast to the shapes being arranged, making them difficult to distinguish at times. Despite its flaws, this might make a diverting precursor to art activities or a useful addition to a study of geometric shapes for the preschool or primary-grade crowds. (Bulletin February 2015)

About the Author
Denise Fleming has written and illustrated numerous celebrated books, including *Go, Shapes, Go!*; *underGROUND*; *SHOUT!*; *Sleepy, Oh So Sleepy*; *Time to Sleep*; *The Everything Book*; *Alphabet Under Construction*; *Count!*; *In the Tall, Tall Grass*; *In the Small, Small Pond*, which received a Caldecott Honor; and *This Is the Nest That Robin Built*. She lives in Toledo, Ohio, with her husband, David Powers, with whom she often collaborates.

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rebecca Morales:

Book is to be different for each and every grade. Book for children until finally adult are different content. To be sure that book is very important for all of us. The book Go, Shapes, Go! has been making you to know about other expertise and of course you can take more information. It is quite advantages for you. The guide Go, Shapes, Go! is not only giving you far more new information but also for being your friend when you sense bored. You can spend your spend time to read your guide. Try to make relationship with the book Go, Shapes, Go!. You never sense lose out for everything if you read some books.

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Terry Smith:

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