

Dear Family,

Throughout the next few weeks, our math class will be studying two-dimensional figures. The students will use definitions to identify and describe characteristics of these figures.

You can expect to see homework that includes identifying types of triangles and quadrilaterals.

Here is a sample of how your child will be taught to classify a triangle by its angles.

Vocabulary

acute triangle A triangle with three acute angles

line segment A part of a line that includes two points, called endpoints, and all the points between them

obtuse triangle A triangle with one obtuse angle

ray A part of a line, with one endpoint, that is straight and continues in one direction

right triangle A triangle with one right angle and two acute angles

MODEL Classify a triangle by the sizes of its angles.

Classify triangle KLM .

STEP 1

Determine how many angles are acute.

$\angle K$ is acute.

$\angle L$ is acute.

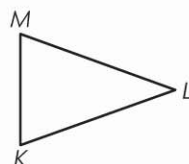
$\angle M$ is acute.

STEP 2

Determine the correct classification.

A triangle with 3 acute angles is

acute.



Tips

Angle sizes

Angles are classified by the size of the opening between the rays. A right angle forms a square corner. An acute angle is less than a right angle. An obtuse angle is greater than a right angle and less than a straight angle.

To classify angles in a figure, use the corner of an index card as a right angle and compare.

Activity

Help your child commit most of the classifications of triangles and quadrilaterals to memory. Together, you can make a series of flash cards with the classifications on one side of the card and definitions and/or sketches of examples on the other side of the card.