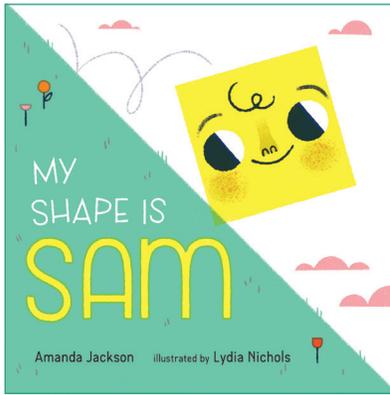


HC: 978-1-62414-770-8



# MY SHAPE IS SAM

## Activity Guide



**Sam feels most like himself when moving like a circle—but Sam is a square.**

Squares don't roll or zoom, they thump-thump-thump. Everyone tells Sam that changing his shape is impossible. But one day, Sam takes a tumble and discovers he can roll his way towards rounder edges. He finds a shape all his own: not a circle, not a square, but Sam!

Debut author Amanda Jackson teams up with illustrator Lydia Nichols to share Sam's story of self-actualization and identity, which will touch anyone who's ever searched for their true self.

Use these activities to teach about different shapes and also to discuss nonconformity, self-discovery, and identity with children as they work to consider their own place in the world.

## Activities



### Finding Sam's Shape

By the end of his story, Sam's shape begins to match the way he sees himself. Talk about how it takes Sam time, courage, and determination to find himself and be accepted by those around him. Then, kids can solve the maze and help Sam find his shape through all the twists and turns.

### Get in Shape

Are you a circle? A square? Or something in between? Ask kids to draw what shape they would be in Sam's world. Encourage them to be creative and consider what makes them unique—would they be combinations of two shapes, or original shapes all their own?

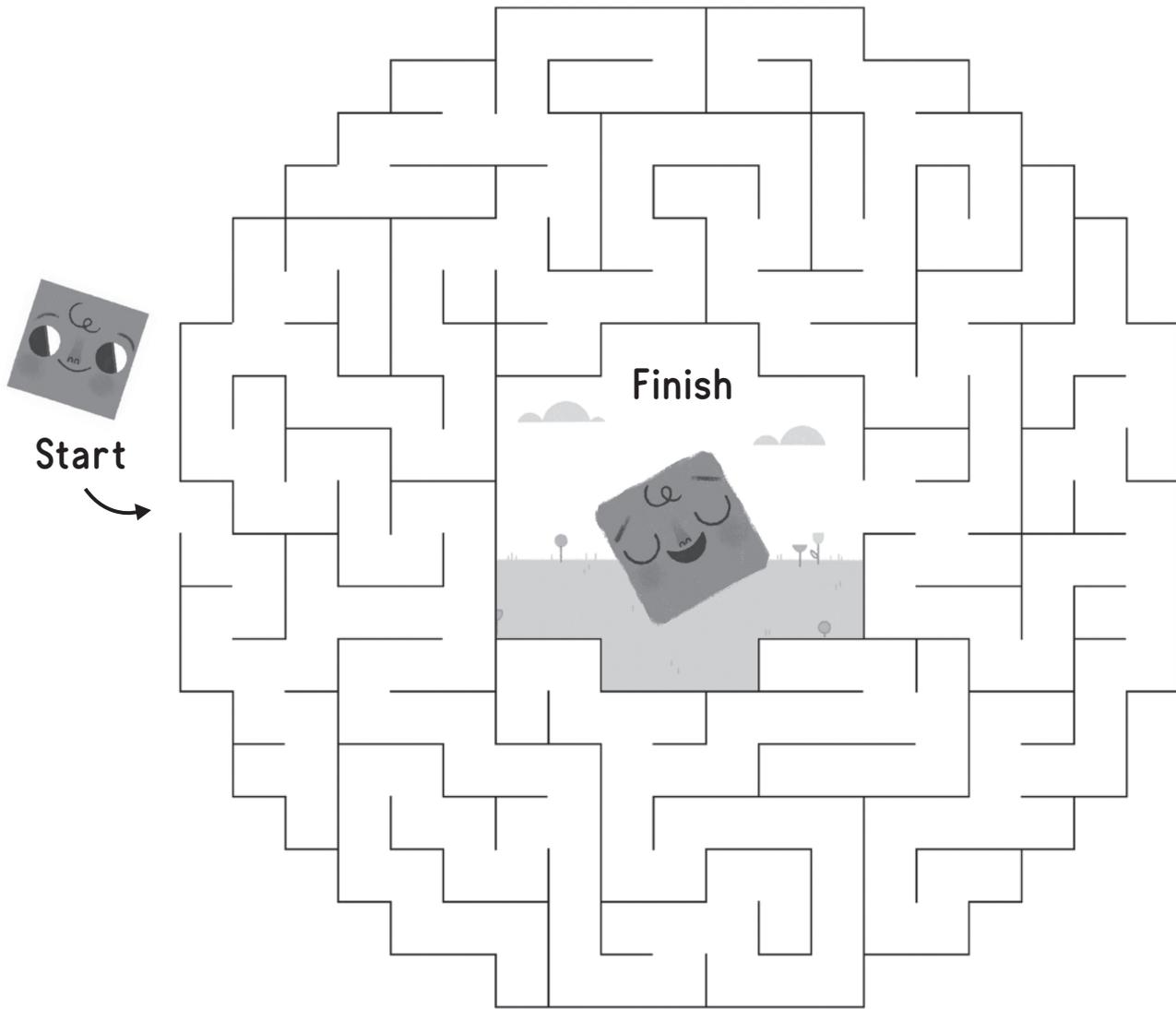
### I Am Me!

Sam feels most like himself when he rolls. He feels confident and free even though his behavior is unconventional. Prompt children to identify an activity they enjoy, perhaps one that is a little out of the ordinary. Ask them to write about what they would do if others considered it either unusual or wrong for them to do this activity. Once they have written their answer, children can share their different responses.

**Bonus!** A coloring sheet for kids to color in Sam and his friends.

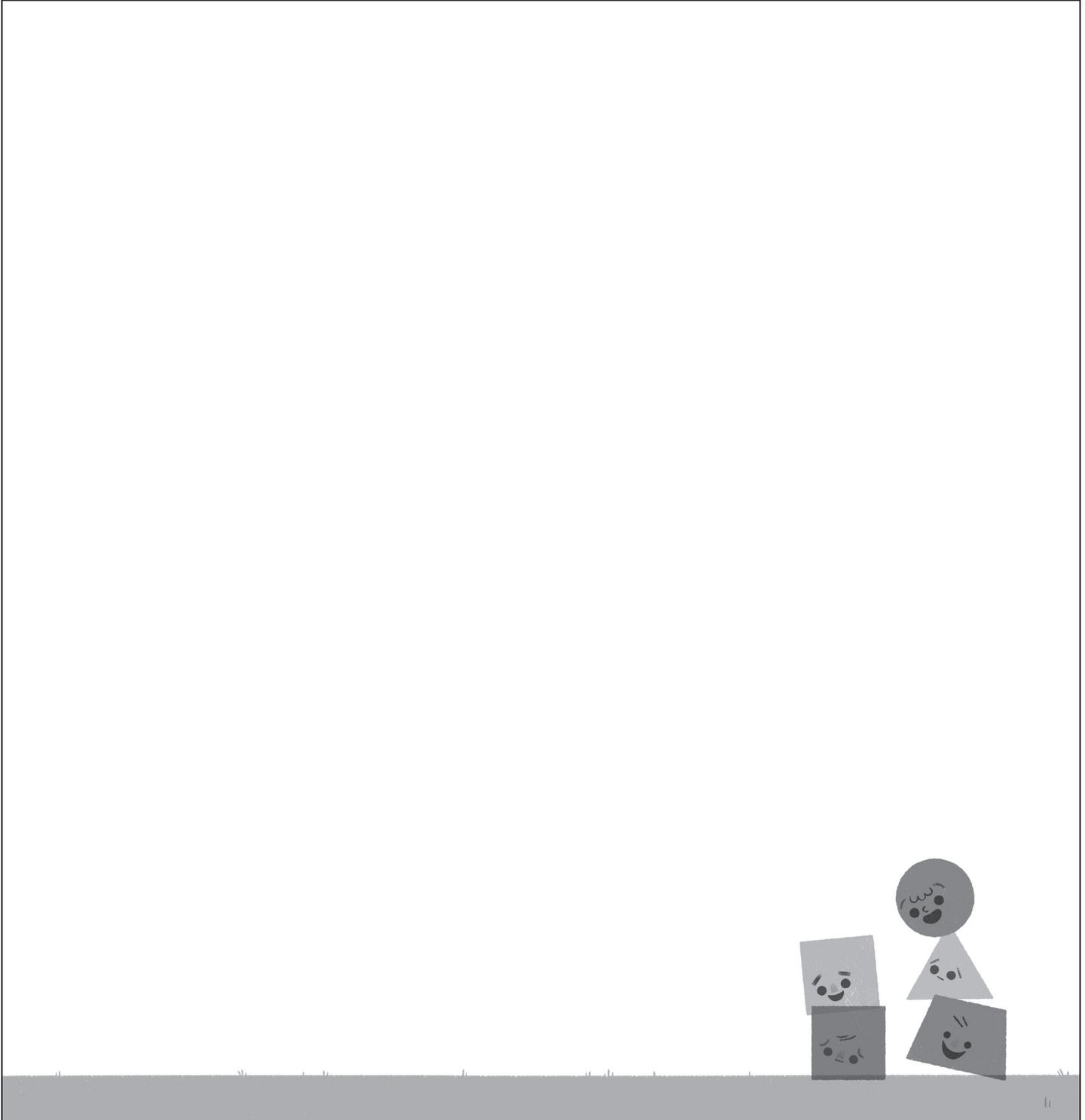
# Finding Sam's Shape

After a few tumbles, Sam becomes a unique, new shape—not a circle and not a square. Can you lead Sam down the path to his true shape?



# Get in Shape

What shape would you be in Sam's world?  
Draw yourself, and be sure to make the details all your own.



# I Am Me!

YIPPEE! Sam feels like himself when he tumbles and rolls. What do you love to do?

My favorite activity is ...

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Some shapes think Sam shouldn't roll because he is a square. What would happen if people told you not to do your favorite activity?

If people told me not to \_\_\_\_\_

I would ... \_\_\_\_\_

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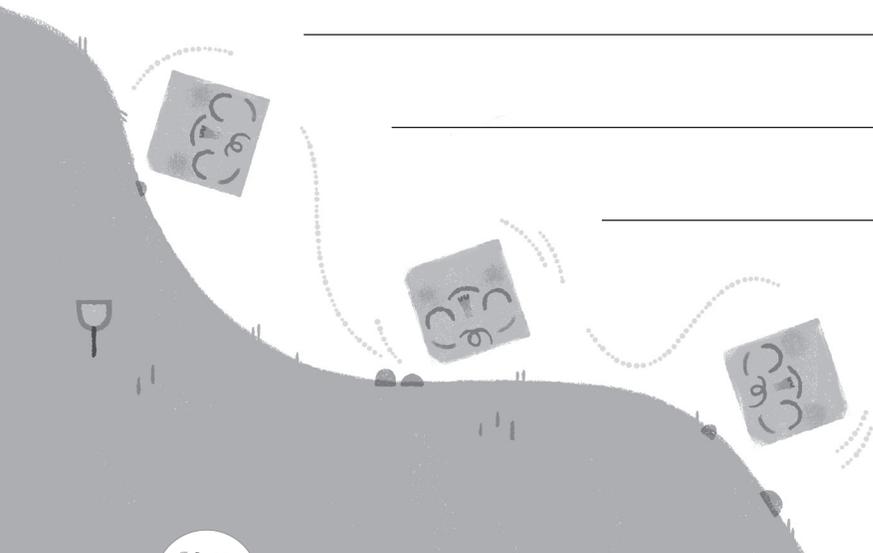
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# Coloring Sheet

Sam's world is colorful and filled with shapes! Color the circles red, the triangles blue, and the squares green. Use the rest of your colors for the other shapes.

