



Read-aloud A Great Shape Adventure

2



Once upon a time, there was a village of globbs. In this village were three friends: Skwee, Skwash, and Trina.

Together, they lived happy lives, playing games and making up dances. But now and again, a restless feeling would come over them and they wished for something more.

3



One day, the three set out together for the faraway city of Polytopia.

They had heard many stories about Polytopia. It was said that the city was full of wondrous things. But only those who knew their true selves would be allowed to enter.

4



But as soon as they set out, it began to rain.

“Oh no,” cried Skwee.

“Let’s turn back,” cried Skwash.

But Trina refused.

5



Instead, Trina looked up at the sky. Then she shut her eyes and squeezed. She squeezed and squeezed until—pop! Trina now had three straight sides with three sharp points.

She was like an umbrella, with long straight sides for the rain to roll off of. Quickly, Skwee and Skwash hurried underneath their friend where it was dry. And they continued on to Polytopia.

Ask: *What do you notice? What do you wonder?*

6



Soon the rain stopped and the sun came out from behind the clouds. The three friends—Skwee, Skwash, and Trina—continued happily for many miles. But when the sun was high in the sky, they came to a mountain.

It was huge with steep, impassable cliffs.

“Oh no,” Skwee cried. “We’ll never climb that!”

“Let’s turn back,” cried Trina.

But Skwash refused.

7



Skwash looked the mountain up and down. Then he bent down and he started to roll. He rolled back and forth, over and over, smoothing out all the edges. When he was done—poof! Skwash was perfectly round!

Then he took his friends—Skwee and Trina—in a big hug, and rolled them all the way up the mountain.

8



The friends continued on their way. As they walked, Skwee looked at his friends. They were both different from when they had left the village together.

Only Skwee had remained the same. Would he get a chance to make something different of himself? he wondered.

 **Ask:** *What do you notice? What do you wonder?*

9



Just then they came to a canyon, deep and wide.

“Oh no,” cried Trina. “We’re stuck!”

“Let’s turn back,” cried Skwash.

But Skwee refused.

10



He stood on the edge and shut his eyes. Then he stretched his arms high above his head. He stretched and stretched, feeling himself getting taller and taller. When he opened his eyes, to his surprise, he saw he now had four straight sides.

With a thud, he lay down to make a bridge. “After you!” he said and let his two friends cross.

11



Soon, they came to the shore of a lake. In the distance was a great shining city —Polytopia!

Without a word, Skwash bent backwards, folding himself in half. Then he stepped into the lake, floating round-side down like a bowl. Skwee climbed up on his old friend's back, and stood tall to form a mast. Once he was nice and tall, Trina climbed the mast to form the sail.

As the wind caught the sail, their little boat drew closer and closer to the city.

 **Ask:** *What do you notice? What do you wonder?*

12



As they drew nearer, they could see it was full of life. Different shapes were coming and going. There were shapes that were familiar and shapes they had never seen before—all of them working and playing together.