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Curriculum Units by Fellows of the Yale-New Haven Teachers Institute
1984 Volume II: Greek Civilization

The Early Greek Contribution to Geometry

Guide for Curriculum Unit 84.02.05

by Joseph A. Montagna

The author has written a unit that focuses on the beginning of the development of geometry, from the very first experiences that man might have had with shape through a period in ancient Greek history. The life of one famous mathematician of this period, Pythagoras, is spotlighted as a motivational device, to ease students into the content skills of basic geometry. The unit starts with lessons on basic definitions and postulates, taking students to the next logical step, the proof. Lessons are also included which suggest exercises that teachers may use to help students become proficient in the use of the tools of geometry.

(Recommended for 7th and 8th grade Math classes)

Key Words

Geometry Ancient Greek Mathematics

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