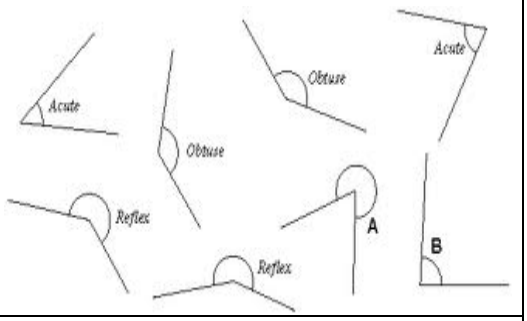
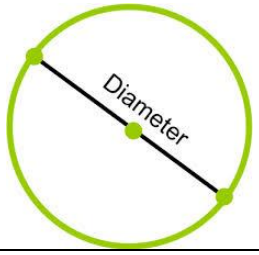
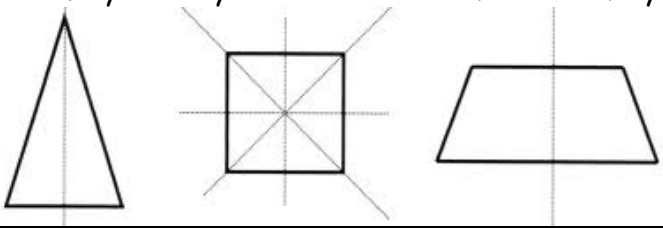
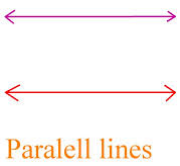
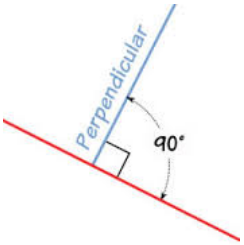
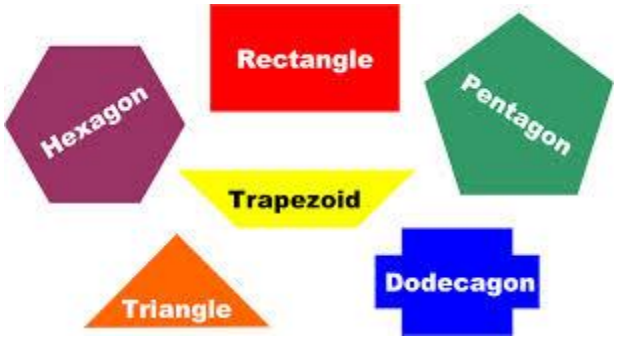
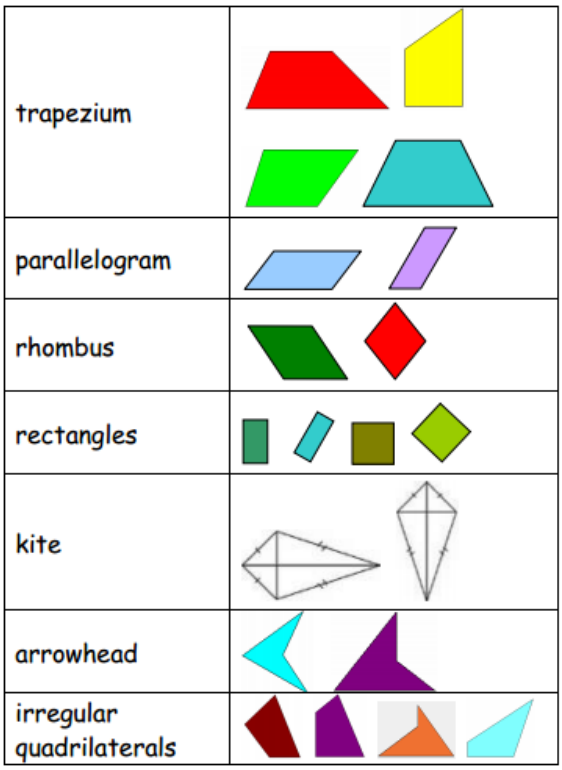
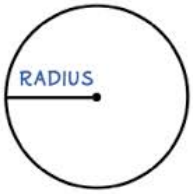
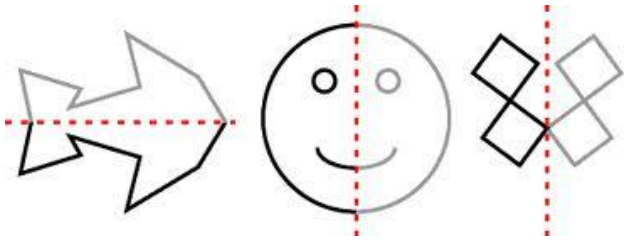
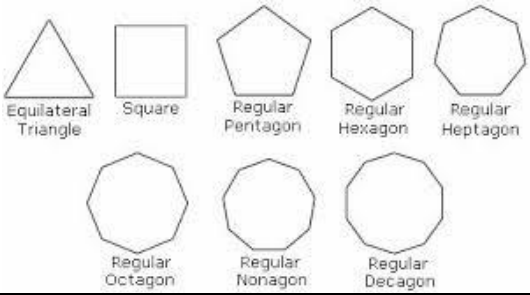
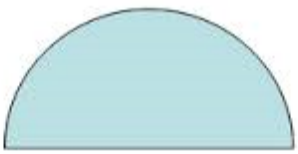
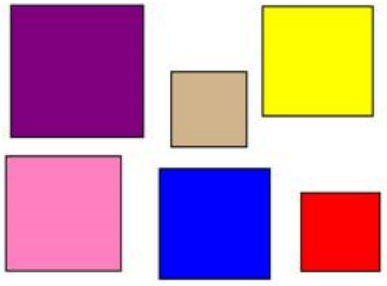
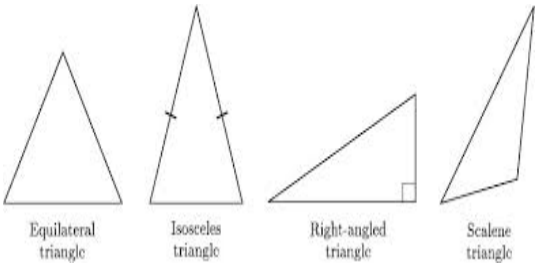
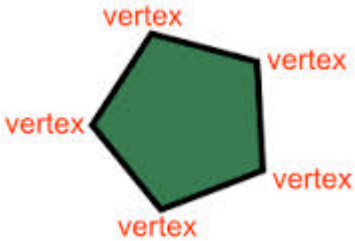
2D Shapes – Glossary of Terms

Vocabulary	Definition
2D	Flat shapes are two dimensional. They have length and width, but no height or thickness.
Angle	An angle is made when two straight lines cross or meet each other at a point. Its size is measured by the amount one line has been turned in relation to the other. Right-angled A right angle is the angle made by a quarter turn or 90°. Acute An acute angle is less than 90°. Obtuse An obtuse angle is more than 90° but less than 180°. Reflex A reflex angle is greater than 180°. 
Circle	A circle is a shape where it is always the same distance from the edge to the centre.
Circumference	The circumference is the distance across the circle through the centre.
Corner	Two or more edges or sides meet at a corner or vertex.
Curved	A line that is not straight or an object that is not flat.
Diameter	A line that cuts a circle in half and passes through the centre of the circle. 
Heptagon	A heptagon has 7 straight sides and 7 corners (20p and 50p coins are examples of heptagons).
Hexagon	A hexagon has 6 straight sides and 6 corners.
Horizontal	Going side-to-side, like the horizon. Parallel to the horizon.
Irregular	Any shape which is not regular
Line	A line has no width; it has only one measurement - its length.
Line of symmetry	The line of symmetry divides a shape into symmetrical parts (Axis of symmetry is another name for line of symmetry). 

Line symmetry	If a shape is symmetrical about a line, it has line symmetry.
Oblong	A quadrilateral with four right angles and two pairs of equal parallel sides with each pair different in length. (A rectangle in which one pair of edges is longer than the other – the other form of rectangle being a square).
Octagon	An octagon has 8 straight sides and 8 corners.
Parallel	Parallel lines never meet. They are the same distance apart from each other all the way along their length.  Paralell lines
Parallelogram	A parallelogram has opposite sides parallel and equal in length. Also opposite angles are equal.
Pentagon	A pentagon has 5 straight sides and 5 corners.
Perpendicular	Two lines which meet at right angles to each other are perpendicular. 
Polygon	Any flat shape with three or more straight sides. When all the sides and angles of a polygon are equal, it is called a regular polygon. No. of sides and name of polygon: 3 triangle 4 quadrilateral 5 pentagon 6 hexagon 7 heptagon 8 octagon 9 nonagon 10 decagon 11 hendecagon 12 dodecagon 

Quadrilateral	A polygon with four sides. See the table below for examples of quadrilaterals. 
Radius	The length of a straight line from the centre of the circle to its circumference (edge). 
Rectangle	A rectangle has 4 straight sides. Pairs of opposite sides are the same length.
Reflective symmetry	If a shape is symmetrical about a line, it has reflective symmetry (line symmetry). 
Regular	A 2D regular shape has all sides the same length and all angles the same. 
Semi-circle	A semicircle is one half of a circle made by cutting along a line that goes from side to side through the middle of the circle. 

Side	A line in a 2D shape is called a side
Square	A square is a special type of rectangle. It has 4 straight sides of the same lengths and 4 right angles. 
Star	A star has points coming out of the centre.
Straight	A line or edge which has no curves is straight.
Symmetrical	A shape is symmetrical if we can fold it so that one half covers the other half exactly.
Triangle	A triangle has 3 straight sides and 3 corners: An **Equilateral triangle** has 3 equal sides and 3 equal angles An **Isosceles triangle** has 2 equal sides and 2 equal angles A **Scalene triangle** has no equal sides and no equal angles A **Right Angle triangle** has one angle of 90^0 
Vertex	A vertex of a shape is a point at which 2 or more edges meet. It is more commonly referred to as 'corner'.  a
Vertices	More than one vertex.