Kinds of Angles

Cross-Curricular Focus: Mathematics

Did you know that **angles** are measured with circles? An angle is a slice of a circle. Look at the two rays that are the arms of an angle. They come to a point where their endpoints meet. You can almost see it as a slice of pie. The whole pie, a full circle, has 360°. If we cut the circle up into 360 equal parts, each part would be one degree. We measure angles by how many of those tiny parts, or degrees, fit between the two arms of the angle.

If an angle has exactly 90° it is called a **right** angle. Two perpendicular lines form a right angle. A right angle has a perfectly square corner, like we see on a square or a rectangle. If the angle has less than 90° it is called an **acute** angle. All acute angles are smaller than right angles. An acute angle fits inside the arms of a right angle if you placed the angles on top of each other. If the angle has more than 90° it is called an **obtuse** angle. All obtuse angles are bigger than right angles. A right angle could fit inside the arm of an obtuse angle.

Did you know that even a straight line is an angle? It's called a straight angle. It measures 180°, exactly half of a circle. An angle that is so large that it bends past the straight line, but is still smaller than a full circle, is called reflex angle. It's fun to work angles!

Name:

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) What shape helps us measure angles?

2) What kind of angles are a part of squares and rectangles?

3) What unit do we use to measure angles?

4) What is the difference between an acute angle and an obtuse angle?

5) Describe your favorite kind of angle. Why is it your favorite?

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Actual wording of answers may vary.

Answer the following questions based on the reading passage. Don't forget to go back to the passage whenever necessary to find or confirm your answers.

1) What shape helps us measure angles?

a circle

2) What kind of angles are a part of squares and rectangles?

right angles

3) What unit do we use to measure angles?

degrees

4) What is the difference between an acute angle and an obtuse angle?

An acute angle is less than 90°. An obtuse angle

is more than 90°.

5) Describe your favorite kind of angle. Why is it your favorite?

student's choice