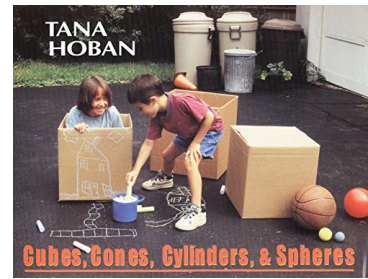


***Cubes, Cones, Cylinders, &  
Spheres***  
**by Tana Hoban**



Sounds sophisticated? Only until you look at Tana Hoban's incomparable photographs and realize that those shapes are the stuff of everyday life. They are all around us all the time. In our houses, on our streets, in our hands. In yet another breathtaking book, Tana Hoban wakes us up to our world and makes us see it.

- Before “reading” the book, talk to your child about the title. Find those 3-D shapes in the picture on the cover of the book and talk about what makes it that shape. (There is also a reference chart on the page before the first photograph.) The focus should not be on naming the shape, but of noticing its defining characteristics. You can use words like pointed, rounded, flat sides, edges, etc. Perhaps your child may even notice that the flat sides, or faces, of 3-D shapes are the 2-dimensional shapes they are more familiar with (like circles, squares, triangles)!
- Go on a 3-D Scavenger hunt! Choose one 3-D shape and have your child find as many of that shape as possible. If you can, collect the items in a bag. If not, keep track another way.
- When you are at the grocery store, placing items in the cart, describe the shape of the objects. For example, “Look, this soup can has a circle at the top and a circle at the bottom, could it be a cylinder? This cereal box has straight lines and sharp corners.”
- Ask your child to help you put away the groceries: “Please pass me things that are cylindrical like the can of soup and tuna. Look! They roll because they are round and don’t have straight lines. ”