Investigating quadrilaterals using scissors

**Teaching notes**

Give each child at least four of the parallelogram from the sheets below and one of the investigations sheets to work through individually or in pairs.

Each time they solve a problem they must draw the shape, mark the scissor line/s and explain why it works.

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| **Investigating quadrilaterals using scissors**  Using a different parallelogram each time:   1. with one straight cut, make a rhombus. 2. with one straight cut, make a trapezium. 3. with two straight cuts, make a rectangle. 4. with two straight cuts, make a square. |  |
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Parallelograms to be printed and used with your class



**Investigating quadrilaterals using scissors – answers**

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| 1. Rhombus |  |
|  | The faint orange lines represent the diagonals that should bisect each other at right angles. All four sides should measure the same length. |
| 1. Trapezium |  |
|  | There are many different trapeziums that can be made and they don’t need to be ‘isosceles’, so long as there is one pair of parallel lines. |
| 1. Rectangle |  |
|  | There are many ways as long as the two cuts are ‘straight up’ (at right angles to the base). |
| 1. Square |  |
|  | As above for the rectangle but all four sides should measure the same length. |