Library-Iowa Department for the Blind
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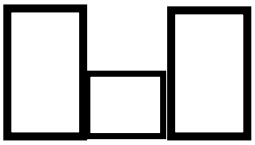
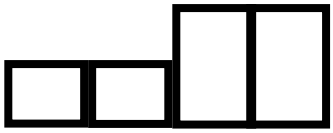
Weekly Dose
Shape Configurations for Young Readers

RULE Shapes used in worksheets for kindergarten, first grade or new readers, will often times have visual cues such as boxes to show the shapes of letters in print. In braille, insert a hyphen for each missing letter of the word where the shape configuration would appear. Insert a SPACE between the hyphens and insert a transcriber's note. Example: One hyphen for each letter.
EXAMPLE:

Match the Shape. Write the spelling word that matches the shape of the boxes.

1. The oven is 

2. The ice is 

⠠⠉⠁⠞⠡ ⠮ ⠠⠩⠁⠏⠑⠲ ⠠⠺⠗⠊⠞⠑ ⠮ ⠎⠏⠑⠇⠇⠨ ⠊⠺

⠞ ⠉⠁⠞⠡⠑⠎ ⠮ ⠩⠁⠏⠑ ⠷ ⠮ ⠃⠕⠭⠑⠎⠲

⠊⠨⠣⠠⠐⠕ ⠓⠽⠏⠓⠢ ⠿ ⠑⠁⠡ ⠇⠕⠲⠊⠨⠞

⠼⠁⠲ ⠠⠮ ⠕⠧⠢ ⠊⠎ ⠭ ⠭ ⠭

⠼⠃⠲ ⠠⠮ ⠊⠉⠑ ⠊⠎ ⠭ ⠭ ⠭ ⠭

For second and third grades use UNSPACED hyphens, one hyphen for each missing letter of the word. Insert a transcriber’s note. Example: One hyphen for each letter.

Source: BANA Guidelines for the Transcription of Early Education Materials from Print to Braille