Shapes Information Gap

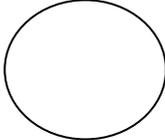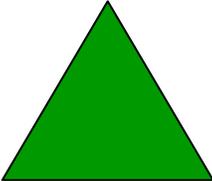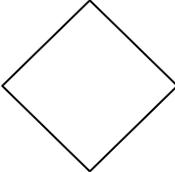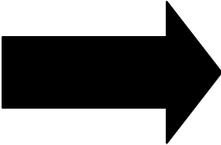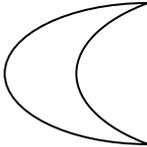Information gaps foster meaningful interaction around content concepts and key vocabulary between pairs of students. Each of the partners is missing some of the information they need to complete a task and must talk to each other to find it. Information gaps can be used to practice or review what students have learned and they promote the development of oral language. This information gap activity provides students with practice on oral language, shapes, and colors.

1. As a whole class, review shapes and colors so that everyone is familiar with the names of the basic shapes and colors.
2. Teach students the sentence frames:
    a. What color is the _____?
    b. The _____ is _____.
3. Show students how to use the frames and have them practice with a partner.
4. Explain to students that they are going to be using those frames to find out information from their partners. This information will help them color shapes.
5. Break students into pairs.
6. Assign students as partner A and partner B.
7. Model how to complete the information gap with another adult or a student. Show students how to point to the shape that isn't colored in, identify the shape, and then ask what color it is. Then show them how to color the shape.
8. Give each pair a set of crayons and a set of information gaps. Distribute the information gaps so each partner gets his or assigned letter. For example, partner A gets the information gap labeled partner A. There are the same shapes on each sheet, but some are colored in and some are blank.
9. Have the students take turns asking questions to find out about their shapes. For instance, partner A will ask "What color is the circle?" and partner B will answer "The circle is blue." Then partner A will color the circle blue.
10. Do the first two items as a group, with students asking and answering the questions together orally.
11. Have students complete the rest of the information gap with their partners. Circulate among the pairs, reminding them to use the frames and checking for understanding.

Partner A

What color is the _____?

The _____ is _____.

Partner B

What color is the _____?

The _____ is _____.