**The Shape of Things**

In Jacob Lawrence’s art, shapes are everywhere! Buildings, streets, trains, walls, doors, windows . . . even hats and luggage are all made up of different shapes.

Shapes are fun and easy to draw. They are an important part of the artist’s language. There are two basic types of shapes: geometric and biomorphic.

Artists like to see things as shapes. When you draw something as a basic shape, you change it into something abstract.

This drawing of a person walking is made out of four rectangles, a triangle, and a circle.

Look carefully at this panel from *The Migration Series*. Which type of shapes does Jacob Lawrence use in this painting? Geometric? Biomorphic? Both?

Circle areas of the painting to explain your answer.

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*Jacob Lawrence, The Migration Series, Panel No. 45, 1940-41.*

Worksheet 2
What could these abstract shapes be?
Using lines and more shapes, transform each of these geometric shapes into something you can recognize, like a popsicle, a bike, or a person.