Finding reflections

Strand

Understanding shape

Learning objective

Visualise and draw on grids where a shape will be after reflection

Type of starter

Recall

Whiteboard tools

- Use 'options' to select the direction of the mirror line (horizontal, vertical or diagonal) and specify the size of the grid.
- Draw a shape in the white area. When complete, press 'done'. The white and shaded areas change places.
- Draw the reflection in the area that has just turned white.
- Press on a white or coloured square if you wish to change either the object or the image. When complete, press 'done'.
- Press 'check' to see if the reflection drawn is correct.
- Press 'reset' to clear grid and start again.

What to do

This activity offers a choice of reflection in the vertical axis, the horizontal axis, both vertical and horizontal axes, or a diagonal line. The object shape built may be as complicated as you or the children wish to make it – L-shapes, for example, are always interesting to experiment with. Invite children to come to the board to build the object and then to find the image.

Differentiation

Less confident: start with simple shapes in a vertical or horizontal line. More confident: reflect more complex shapes in a diagonal line and with images one or two squares away from the mirror line.

Key questions

- How do you know your shape or pattern is reflected correctly?
 - Where would this shape be after reflection?

