

Divide detectives into groups of four students. They will use **string circles** to create pentagons, hexagons and octagons.

First have the groups hold the string to create pentagons. They can create a few different pentagons . Next explain that a regular pentagon has equal length sides. Challenge them to create a regular pentagon. :

- ? How could they tell if the pentagon is a regular pentagon? (*Measure the sides to see if they are equal in length.*)
- ? How many different pentagons is it possible to make with the string? (*an infinite number.*)
- ? How many different regular pentagons is it possible to make with the string? (*One.*)

Next, have the groups create hexagons. Have them create a few different hexagons with sides of different lengths. Then challenge them to create a regular hexagon.

- ? How many different hexagons is it possible to make with the string? (*An infinite number.*)
- ? How many different regular hexagons is it possible to make with the string? (*One.*)

Now have the groups create octagons. Have them create a few different octagons with sides of different lengths. Then challenge them to create a regular octagon.

- ? How many different octagons is it possible to make with the string? (*An infinite number.*)
- ? How many different regular octagons is it possible to make with the string? (*One.*)

Take the class outside to hunt for these shapes. Have them list ones they find on page 15 of their **Math Clue Books**. They can include ones in nature or ones that are human-made.

Have the detectives draw and label a pentagon, hexagon, and octagon on the **Shapes Tool** in their **tool kits**.

MATERIALS:

- *Tool Kits
- *String circles
- *Pencils
- *Shapes Tool
- *Tool kits
- *Crayons
- *Note cards
- *Dowels
- *String
- *Math Clue Books

