
APPOINTMENT CLOCKS & DIAGRAMS

Appointment Clocks and Diagrams are one way to put students in pairs or small groups quickly. It requires some prep, but is worth it in the long run.

Make a copy of the clock or diagram for each student (see next pages for samples). Have students stand up and find a partner. If you have an odd number of students, one group will be a trio, but nobody should be in a trio more than once during the activity. Have partners exchange names on their papers for a particular time slot or label and then have them remain together and chat until you tell them to find another partner. For example, with clocks, the direction might be for everyone to find a partner and “make a 1 o’clock appointment.” Pairs trade names on their papers where it says 1 o’clock and chat until the teacher tells them to find a new partner and then they trade names on the next number the teacher calls out.

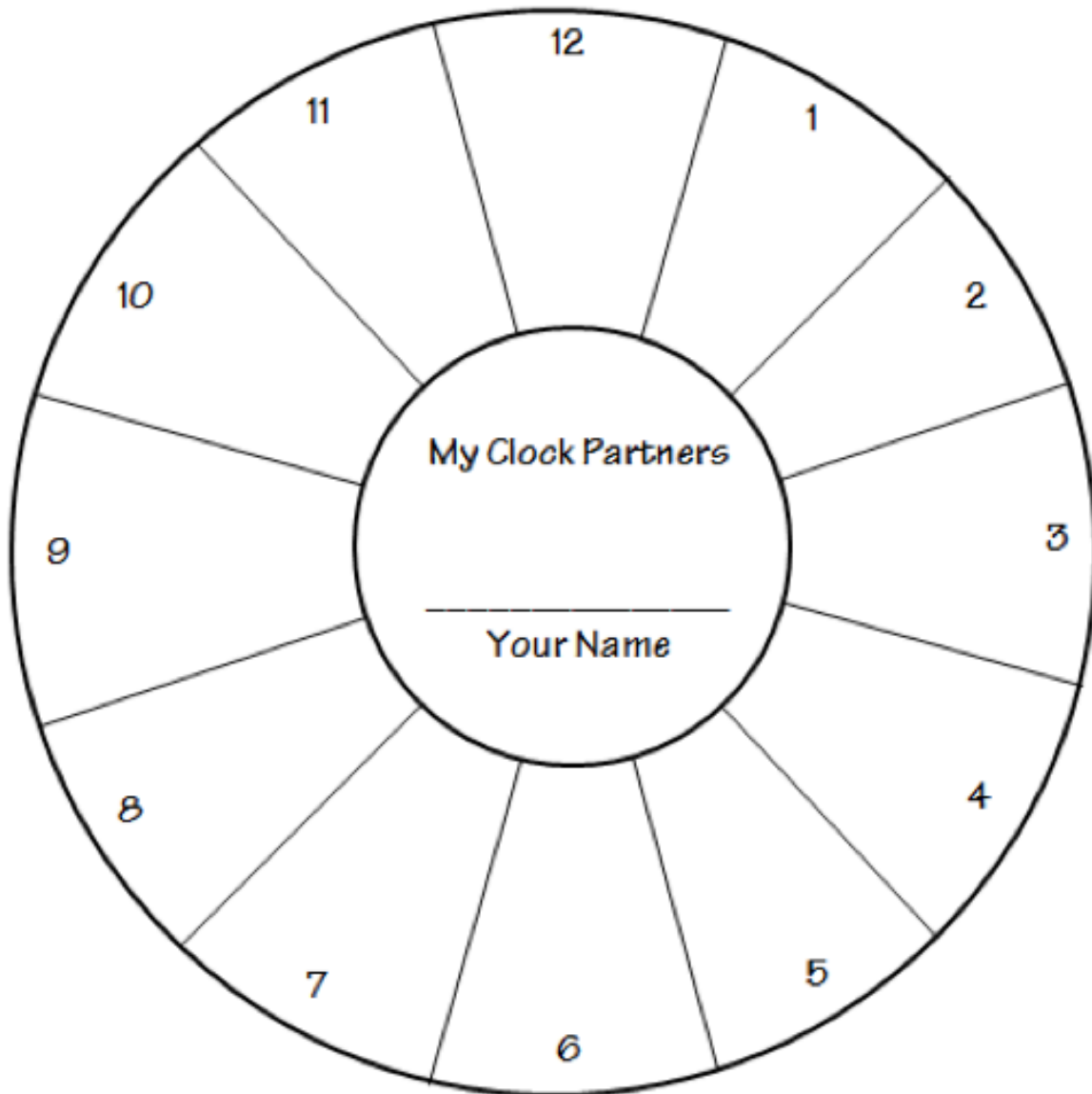
Variation: Allow students to choose partners for some spots on the clock or diagram, but decide some of the partners ahead of time so that you know, for example, that the 2 o’clock partners are students with similar academic abilities or that the 5 o’clock partners have similar interests.

Once students have made appointments with several other students and filled in their clock or diagram, you can quickly pair up students for future activities by saying things like “everyone stand up and find your 6 o’clock partner.” NOTE: Be sure to have them keep the clock or diagram in an easy to find location, perhaps in the front of their binder or taped to the back of a covered textbook.

Tips From the Trenches:

- If you have a student you know other students are avoiding and might not want to partner with, ask a couple of your kindest students ahead of time to make a point of partnering with this student during the activity.
- You don’t have to use all 12 numbers on the clock or all labels on a diagram. On the clock, for example, consider starting with students making appointments for 12, 3, 6 and 9 only.
- Collect appointment sheets after the activity is over and photocopy them. Keep the originals and give the copies back to the students to keep in their binders. Some students will lose their papers and you want to be sure you have a back up.

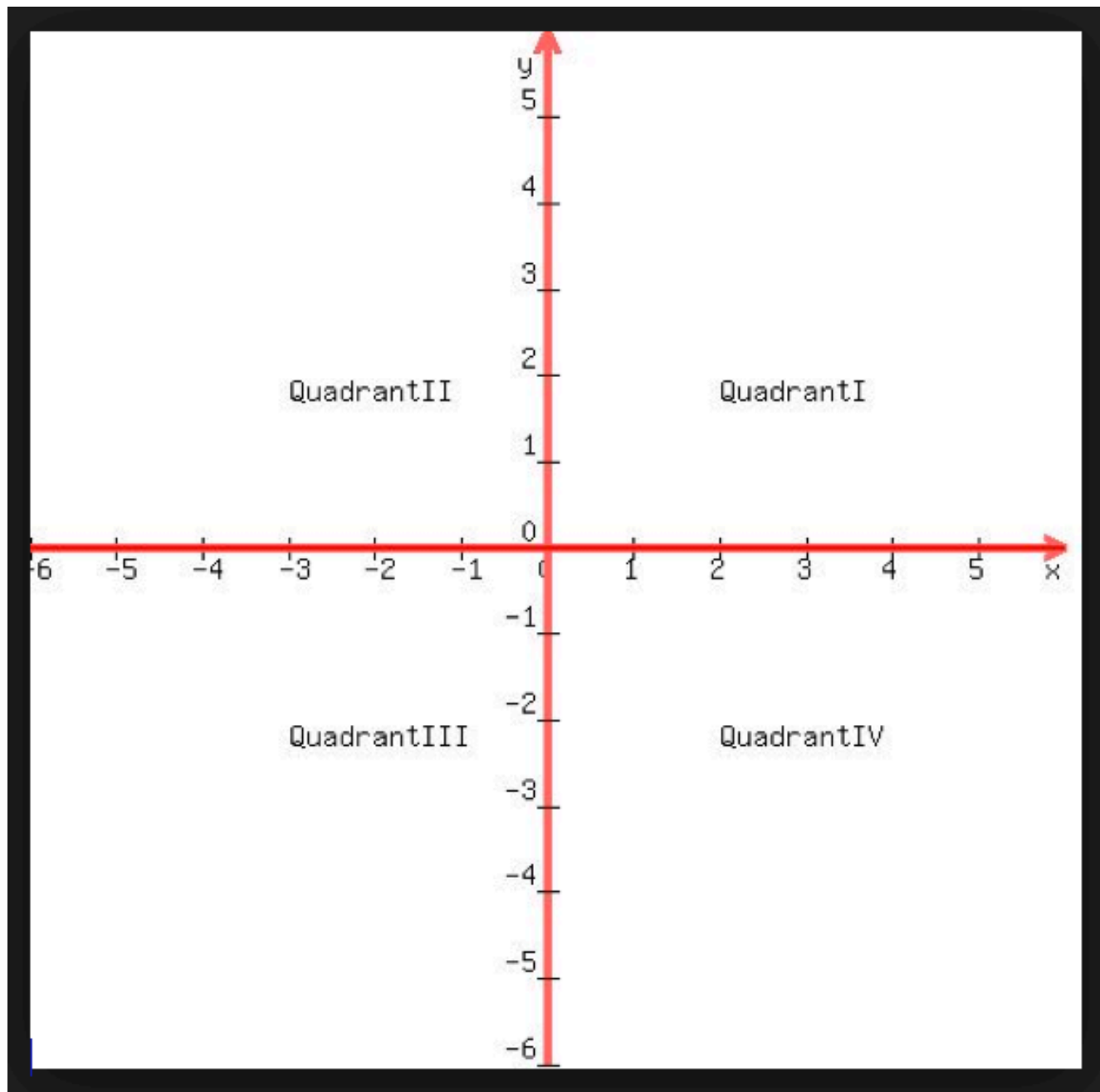
Clock Partners



Speed Dial Partners

This Cell Phone Belongs To:		
1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

Quadrant Partners



Compass Partners

Compass Buddies


Name _____
Date _____

North Buddy

Northwest Buddy

Northeast Buddy

West Buddy



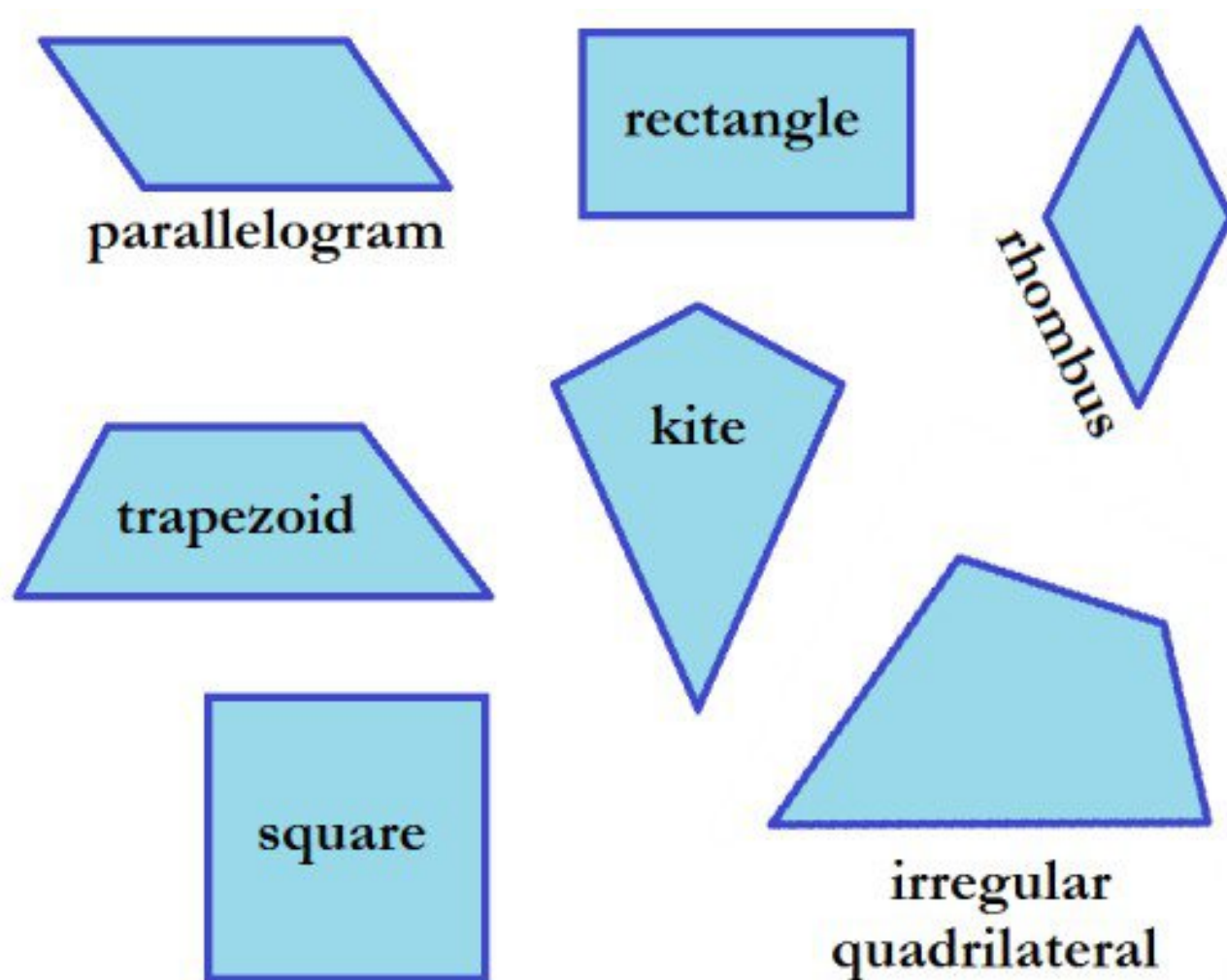
East Buddy

Southwest Buddy

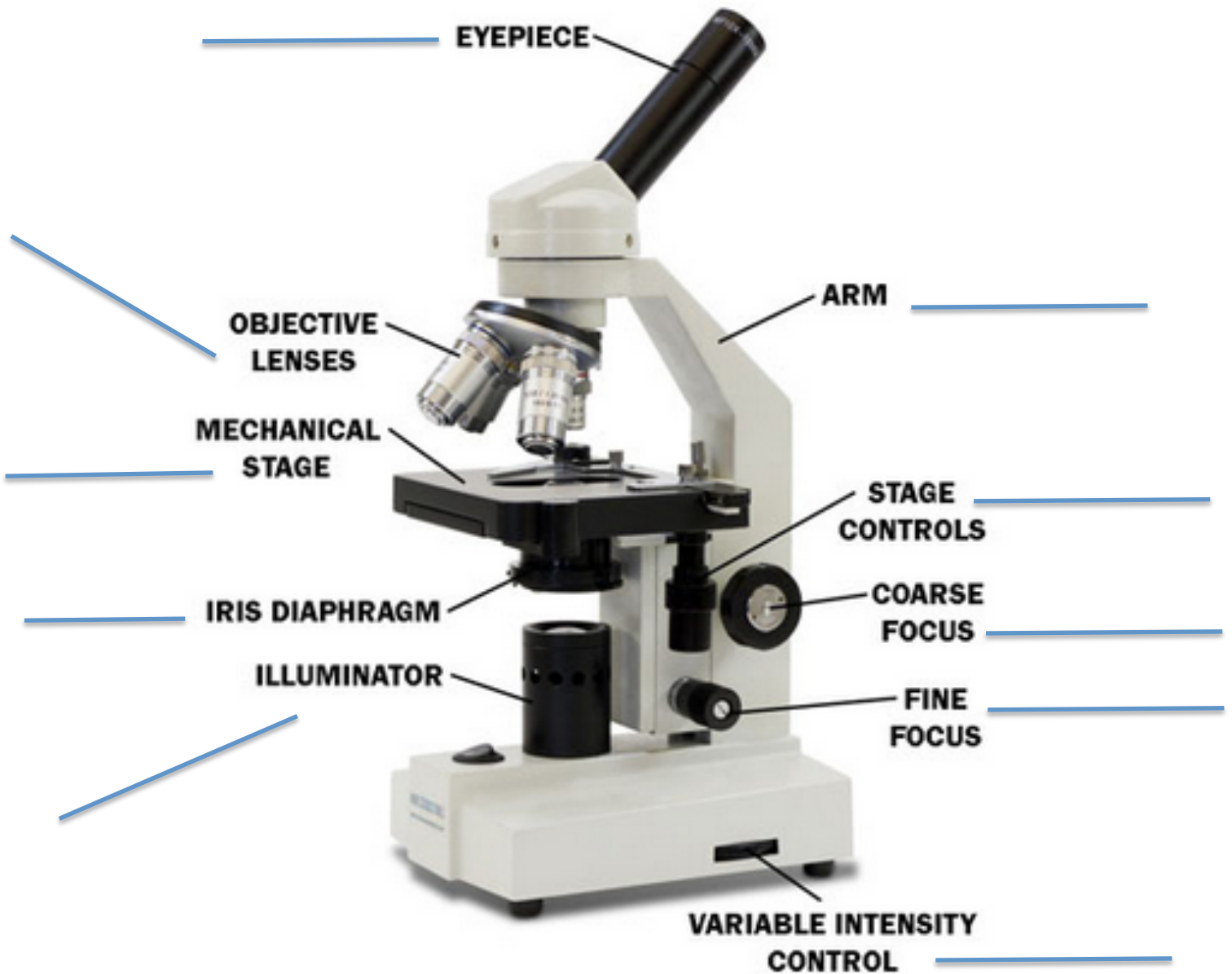
Southeast Buddy

South Buddy

Geometric Shapes Partners



Microscope Partners



Map Partners

