Comparing Area of Shapes

Supervisor Information

Materials you will need:

- **Lesson 1: Resource Sheet 1**, **2** and **3**

In this lesson the student will be learning to:

- make closed shapes and describe the area of each shape;
- use comparative language to describe area e.g. 'bigger than', 'smaller than', 'the same as'.

Background Information

The initial discussion in this lesson is to review the student's understanding of closed and open shapes.

The attribute blocks the student will be using to compare area are three-dimensional, but the lesson will focus on the 2D shapes they represent and refer to them as 'shapes' not 'objects'.

The student will be superimposing shapes to compare their areas. This involves placing one shape over the top of another shape, usually the smaller shape over the top of a larger shape, to compare the areas of both shapes.

Assist the student to cut out **Lesson 1: Resource Sheet 1**, **2** and **3** prior to beginning the lesson.

Supervisor Working with Student

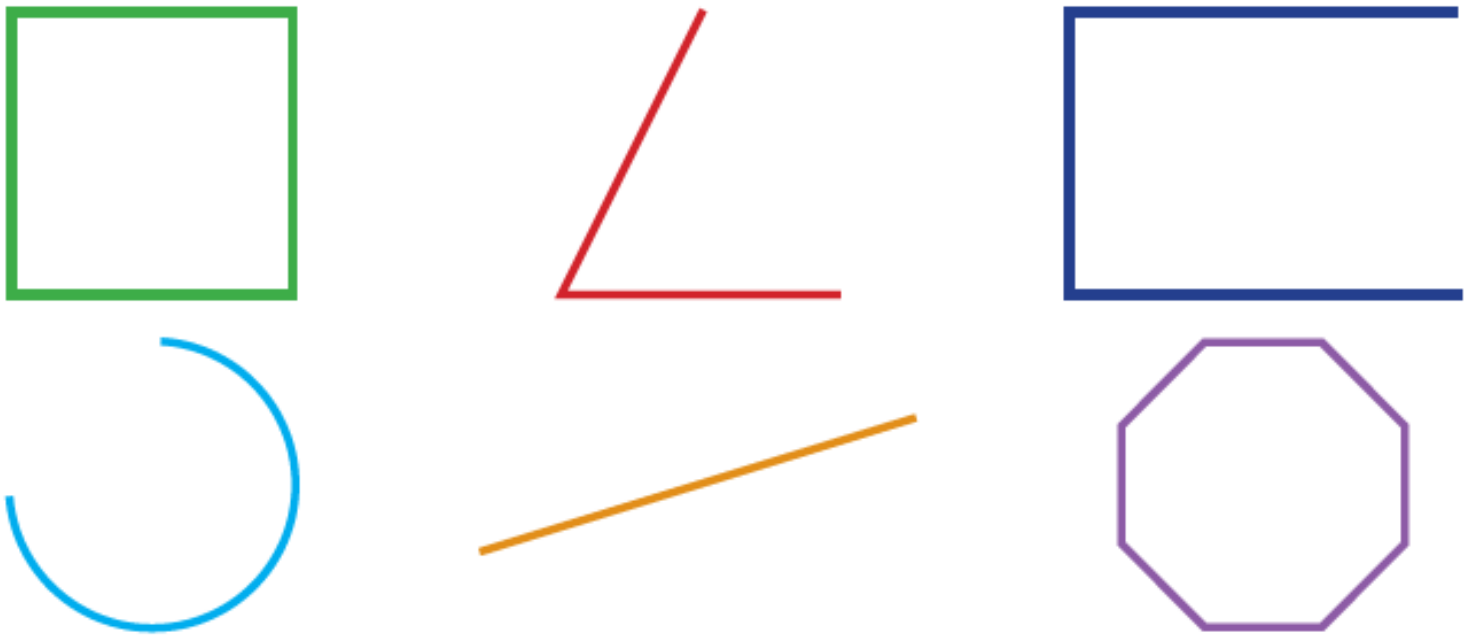
Do you know what a closed shape is? Do you know what an open line is?

Point to the shapes and lines below. **These are examples of closed shapes and open lines.**

Point to a closed shape (the circle, square, rectangle, triangle). **This is a closed shape. The line around the outside joins so there are no gaps. We can find the area of a closed shape.**

Point to an open line. **This is an open line. The ends of the line do not join up. An open line can be curved or straight. We can't find the area of an open line.**

I want you to colour in the closed shapes below and cross out the open lines.



Spread out the shapes from **Lesson 1: Resource Sheet 1**, **2** and **3**

In this activity you are going to compare the area of shapes, by stacking one shape on top of another shape.

Put the red square on top of the blue square. If you look from above, can you see some of the shape that is on the bottom?

If you can, this means that the bottom shape has a bigger area than the top. If you can't, this means the top shape has a bigger area than the bottom shape.

Put the green triangle on top of the red triangle. Which is bigger?

Put the green square on top of the red rectangle. Which is bigger?

Put the purple triangle on top of the red square. Which is bigger?

Now, choose two shapes and stack the shape you think has the smaller area on top of the shape you think has the larger area.

Complete this sentence. The _____ has a bigger area than the _____.

Stack two different shapes. Can you see some of the surface of the shape on the bottom?

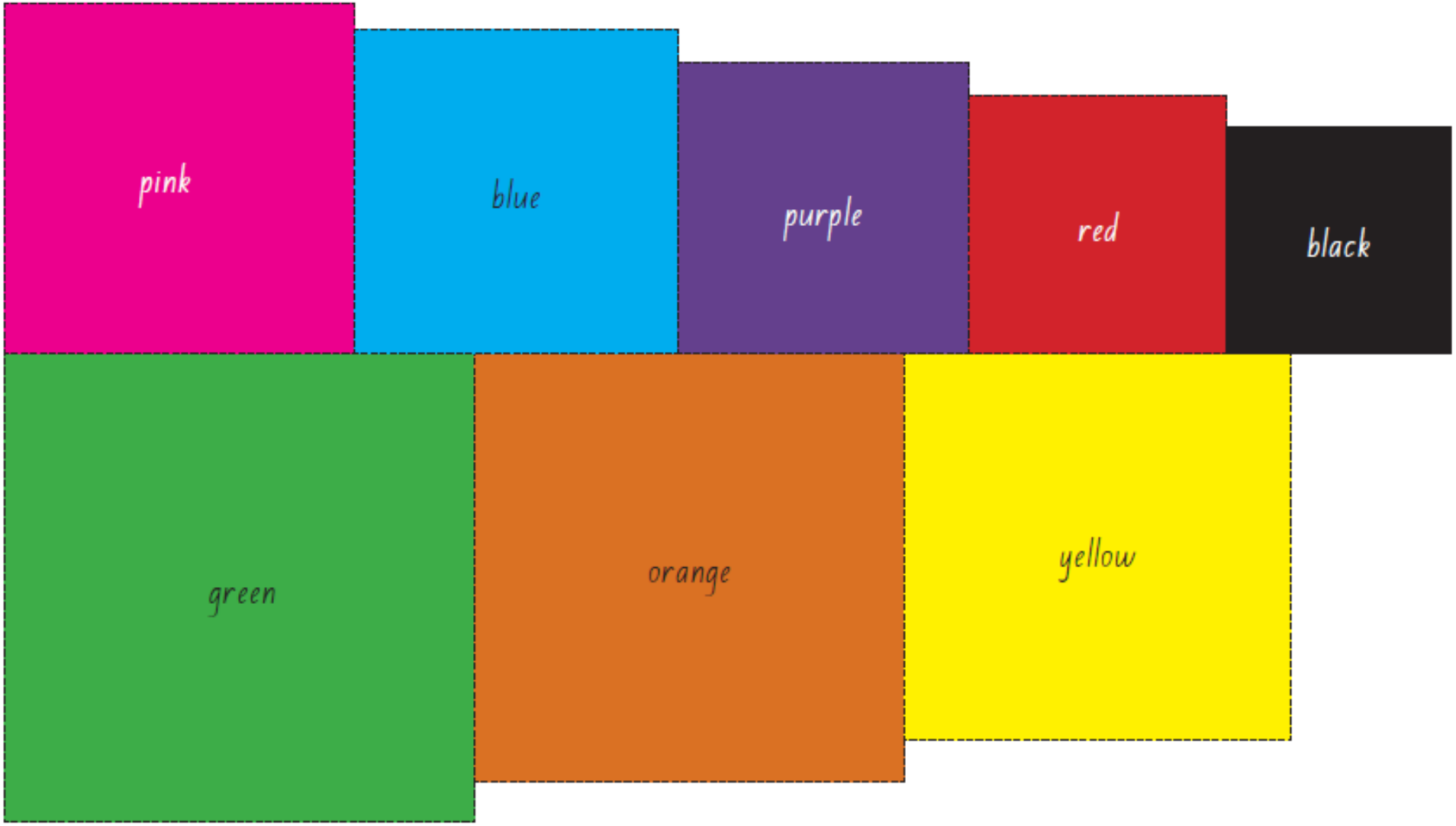
Complete this sentence. The _____ has a smaller area than the _____.

Find two shapes that have the same area as each other.

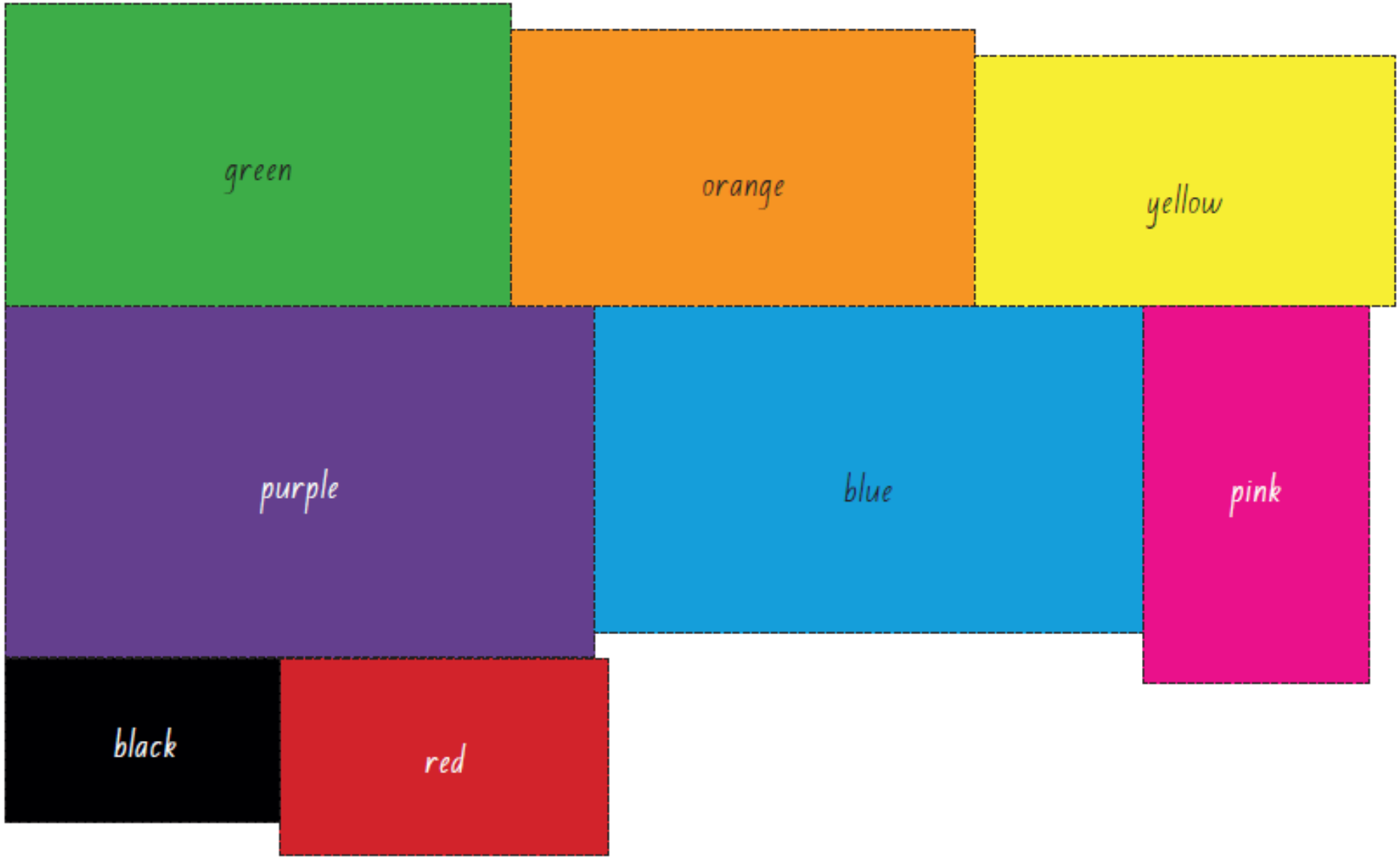
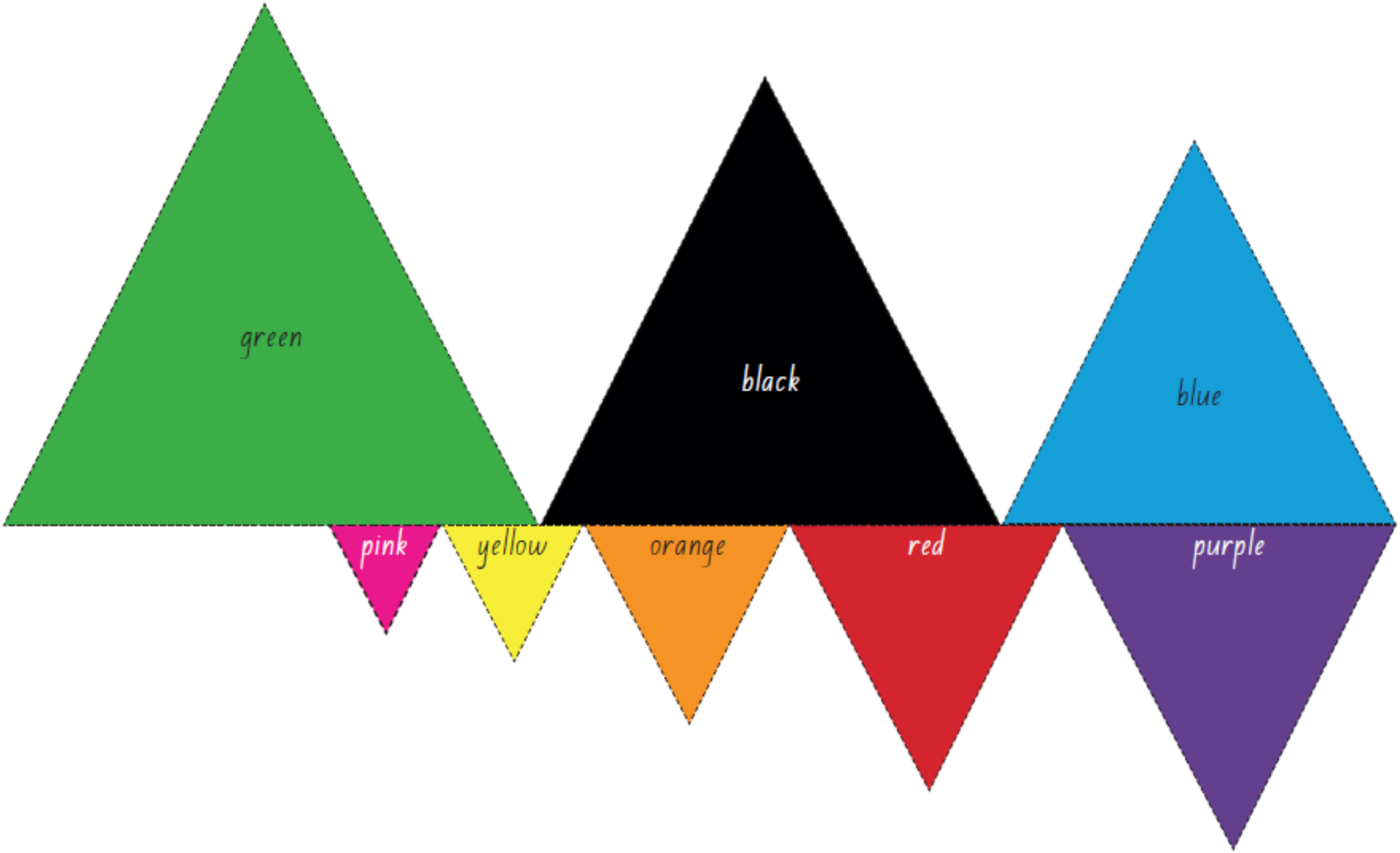
Complete this sentence. The _____ has the same area as the _____.

Repeat the activity with different combinations until the student is confident comparing shapes using bigger area than, smaller area than and same area as.

Lesson 1: Resource Sheet 1



Lesson 1: Resource Sheet 2



Lesson 1: Resource Sheet 3