



FRANK
LLOYD
WRIGHT
TRUST

MOVE THE WRIGHT WAY

GRADE: K-5

TIME: One 1-hour session

Many of Frank Lloyd Wright's works of architecture rhythmically repeat shapes. In this lesson, students are introduced to Wright's most iconic designs through geometry. Students will perform exercises that kinesthetically model the shapes represented in Wright's work.

INTEGRATED SUBJECTS: Math, Physical Education, Visual Arts

OBJECTIVES

MATERIALS | RESOURCES

Architectural images (Appendix A)

Movement directions (Appendix B)

Open space for students to execute exercises

Shape of the World by K.L. Going, available for purchase at [ShopWright.org](https://shopwright.org)

Timer (or speaker with music)

Jump ropes (optional)

Hula hoops (optional)

1. Understand how Frank Lloyd Wright was inspired by shapes in nature.
2. Perform exercises inspired by the geometry of Wright's architectural works.
3. Follow directions while working in a small group.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. Where did Frank Lloyd Wright find inspiration?
2. How did Wright incorporate shapes in his art and architecture?
3. How can I represent shapes using my body?

LESSON PROCEDURE

EXPLORE

- Before students arrive, print architectural images and signs with movement directions (Appendix A and B). Set up six stations around the room. At each station, hang up the architectural image and sign with movement directions. (Tip: Laminate the signs so that they can be reused.)
- Once students arrive, briefly introduce the life and work of Frank Lloyd Wright. Read *The Shape of the World: A Portrait of Frank Lloyd Wright* written by K.L. Going and illustrated by Lauren Stringer.
- Ask students to consider: What did young Wright like to do with his shape toys? What shapes did young Wright see in nature? How did Wright include the shapes of nature in his buildings?
- Tell students that today they will complete movements and exercises that are inspired by the shapes of Wright's buildings. Briefly model each movement for students.

LESSON PROCEDURE (continued)

ENGAGE

- Split students into six small groups. Assign each group to a station to begin. Tell students that each station has a shape theme and will have shape-themed exercises for them to perform. First, students will need to find the shape in the picture of the Wright building posted at their station. Then, students will perform the station movement. Finally, when students hear the transition sound (either a timer or music stopping), then they will perform the transition movement to their next station.
- Instruct students to walk with their group to their assigned starting station.
- Begin the timer or music and instruct students to begin. Observe groups to ensure students are on-task. Redirect students as needed. After 3-5 minutes of students completing the movement, set off the timer or music, and direct students to perform the transition movement on the way to the next station. Repeat until every group completes the movements at each station.
- Stations
 - ◇ **Circle Station: Guggenheim**
 - **Movement:** Hula hoops (If hula hoops are not available, have students run in place while spinning in a circle.)
 - **Transition Movement:** Arms out, spin in circle
 - ◇ **Straight Line Station: Robie House**
 - **Movement:** Arm circles
 - **Transition Movement:** Walk with arms straight ahead (zombie walk)
 - ◇ **Triangle Station: Oak Park Home and Studio**
 - **Movement:** Form triangle with legs, stretch to one leg and then the other with opposite arms
 - **Transition Movement:** Slide step, moving sideways
 - ◇ **Rectangle Station: Fallingwater**
 - **Movement:** Toe touch (modify to knee touch as needed)
 - **Transition Movement:** Crab walk
 - ◇ **Semicircle Station: Marin Civic Center**
 - **Movement:** Jumping rope (If jump ropes are not available, modify to a wide leg squat).
 - **Transition Movement:** Bear Crawl
 - ◇ **Square Station: Unity Temple**
 - **Movement:** Square Pose
 - **Transition Movement:** Marching

CRITIQUE & INTERPRET

- After every group is back at the first station they visited, direct students to sit down.
- Ask students to look at their original station's signs again. Encourage students to share where they found the shape in the picture of Wright's building. Then ask a few students to share out how their body created that shape in the movements at their station.
 - Optional Extension: Call on each student to demonstrate their favorite exercise from today's lesson as an exit pass to line up for dismissal.

The logo for Teaching by Design, featuring a red and grey rectangular graphic with the text "TEACHING BY DESIGN" in white.

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BY DESIGN

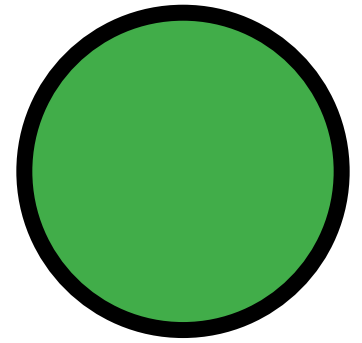
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STATIONS AND TRANSITIONS

**TEACHING
BY DESIGN**

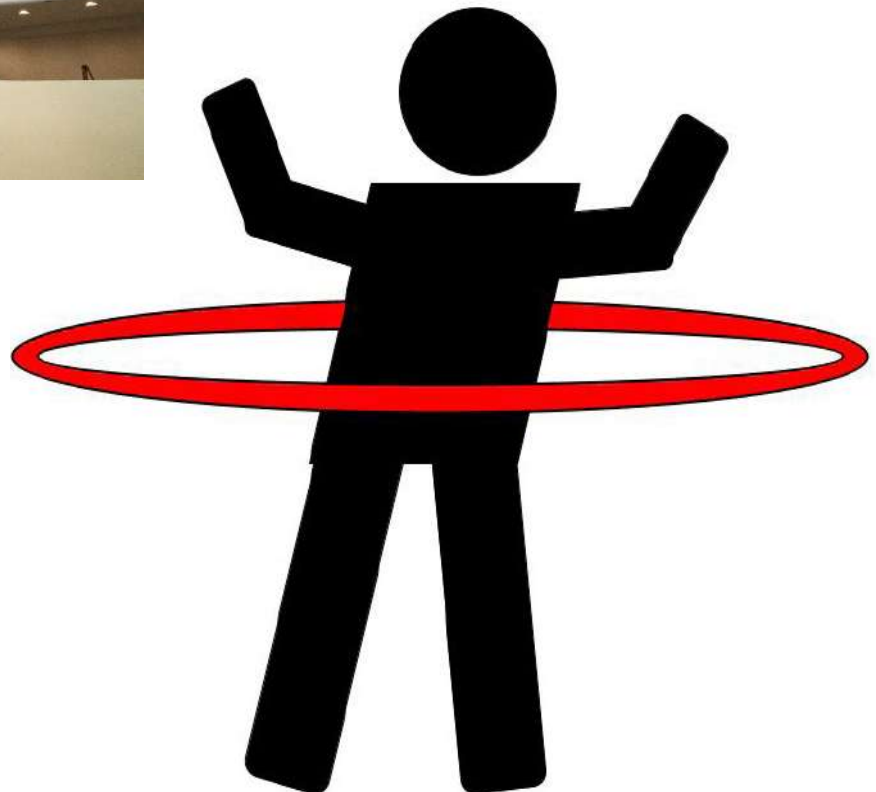
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CIRCLE STATION



THE GUGGENHEIM

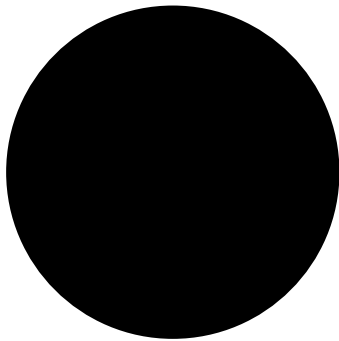
HULA HOOPS



TRANSITION

**PREVIOUS
STATION**

**NEXT
STATION**



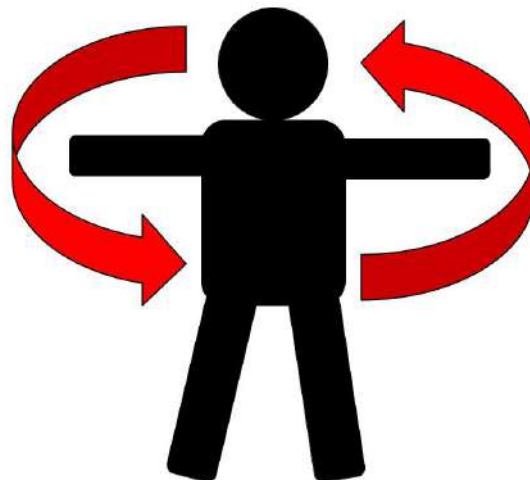
CIRCLE



**STRAIGHT
LINE**

MOVEMENT

SPIN IN A CIRCLE





STRAIGHT LINE STATION



**ROBIE
HOUSE**

**ARM
CIRCLES**



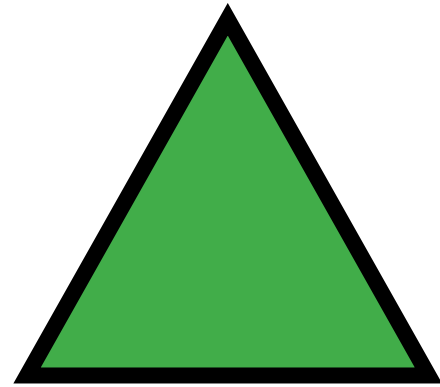
TRANSITION

**PREVIOUS
STATION**

**NEXT
STATION**



**STRAIGHT
LINE**



TRIANGLE

MOVEMENT

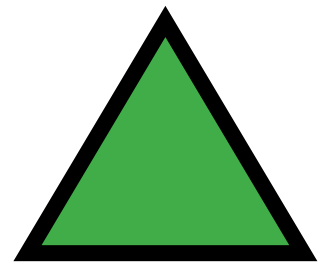
ARMS STRAIGHT OUT



**(ZOMBIE
WALK)**

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TRIANGLE STATION



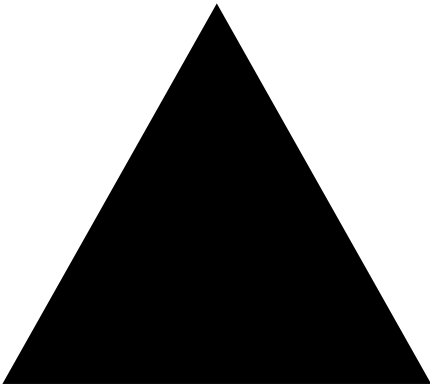
OAK PARK HOME AND STUDIO

**STRETCH
TO EACH
LEG**



TRANSITION

**PREVIOUS
STATION**



TRIANGLE

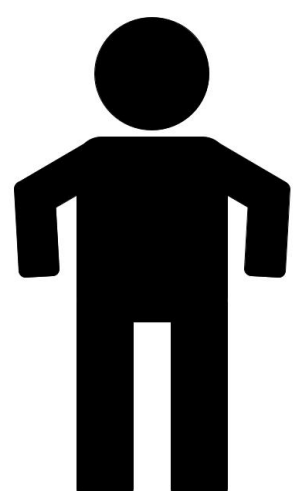
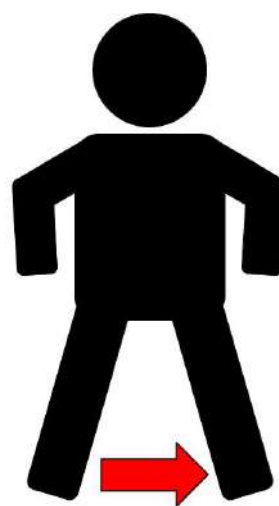
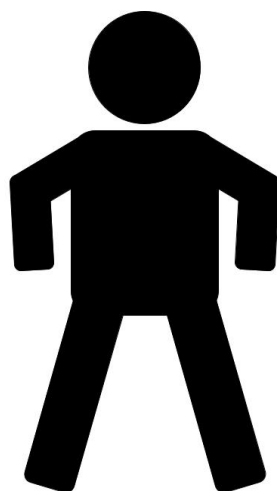
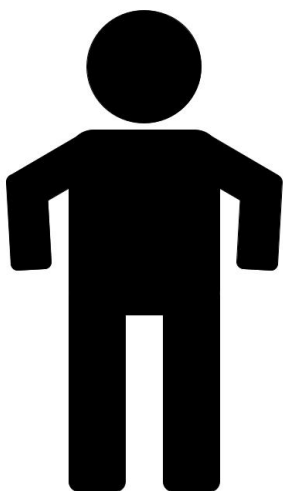
**NEXT
STATION**



RECTANGLE

MOVEMENT

SLIDE STEP



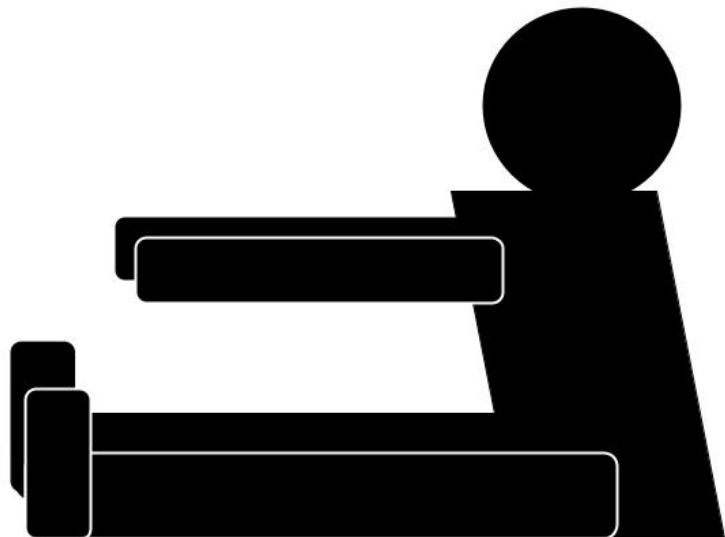


RECTANGLE STATION



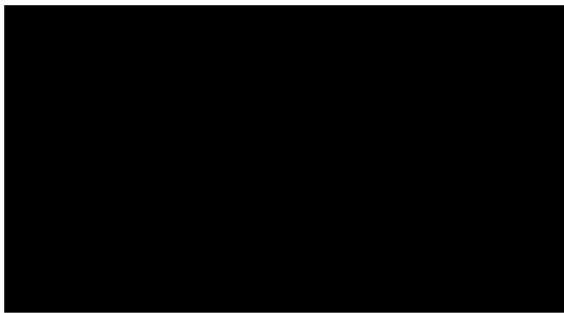
FALLINGWATER

TOE TOUCH



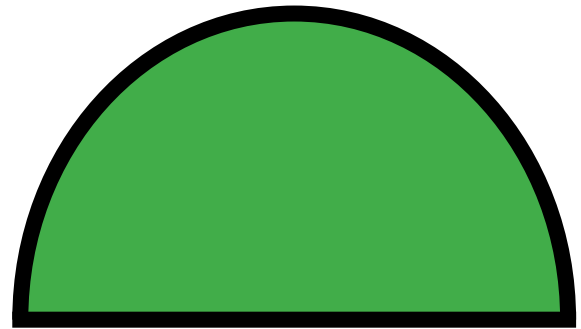
TRANSITION

**PREVIOUS
STATION**



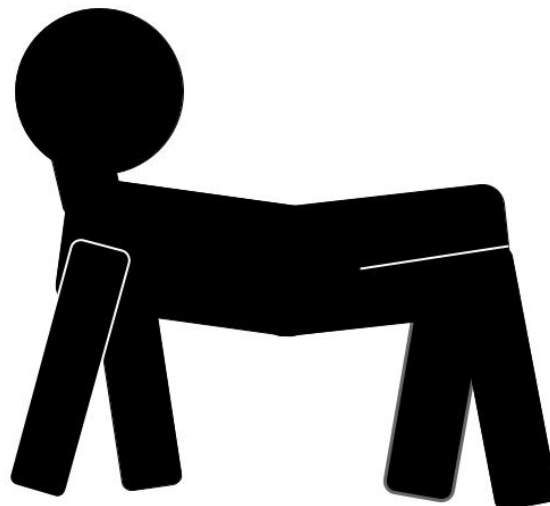
RECTANGLE

**NEXT
STATION**



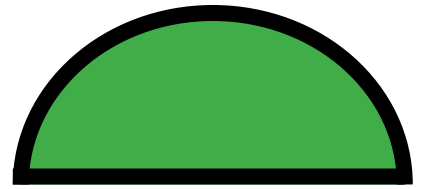
SEMICIRCLE

**MOVEMENT
CRABWALK**

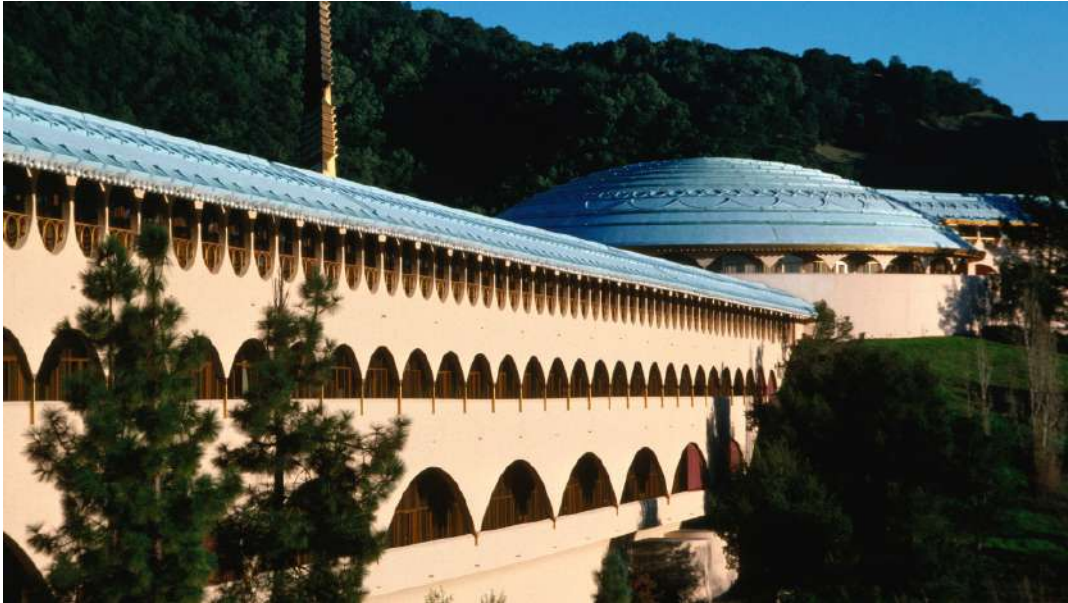


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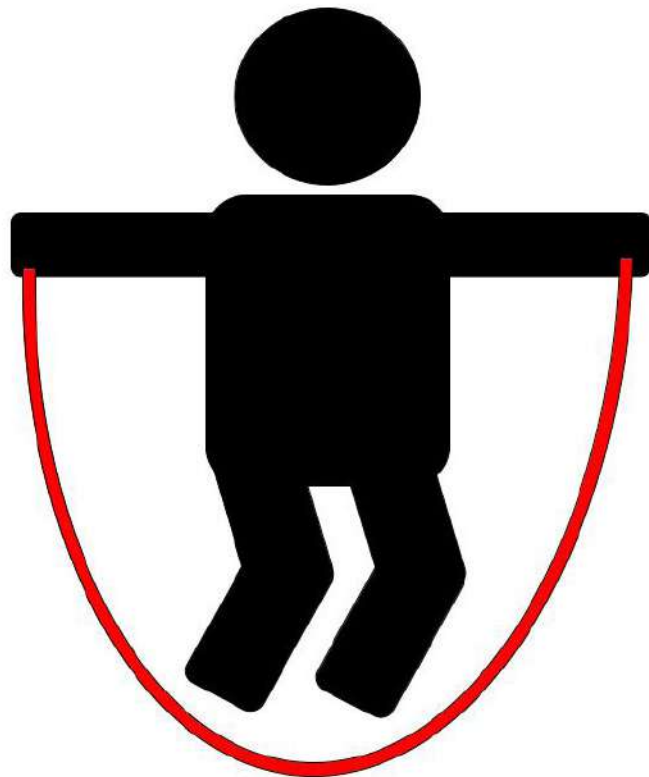


SEMICIRCLE STATION



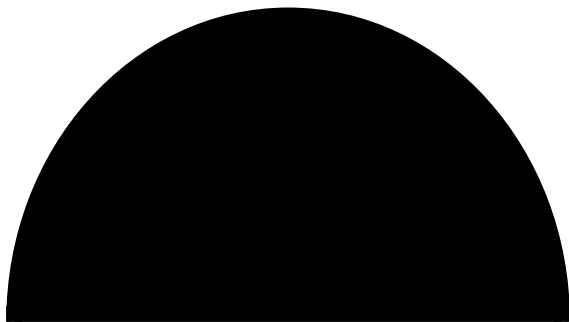
MARIN CIVIC CENTER

**JUMP
ROPE**



TRANSITION

**PREVIOUS
STATION**



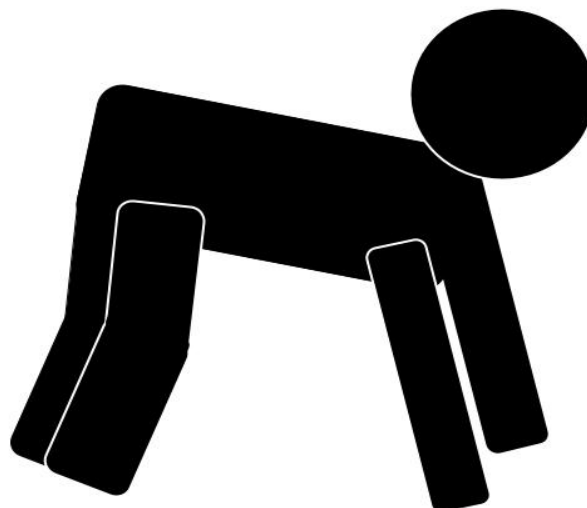
SEMICIRCLE

**NEXT
STATION**



SQUARE

MOVEMENT BEARWALK



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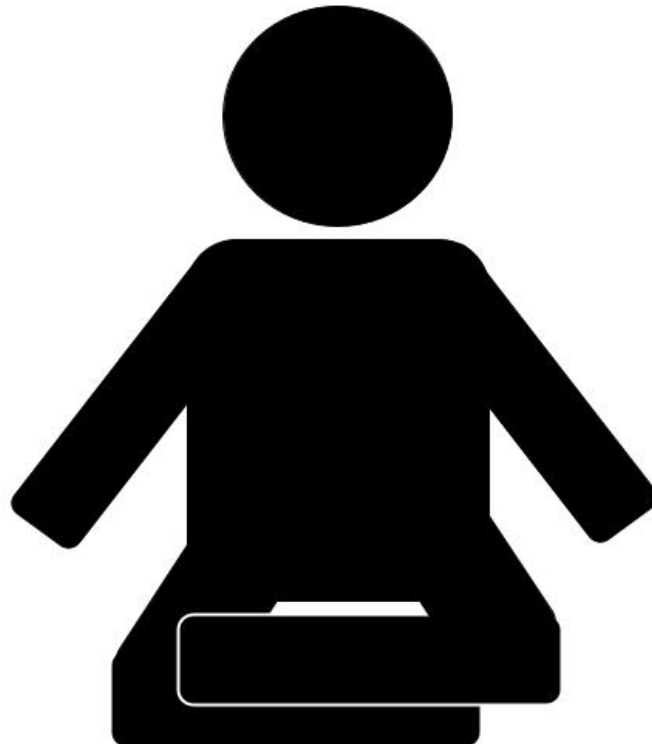
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SQUARE STATION



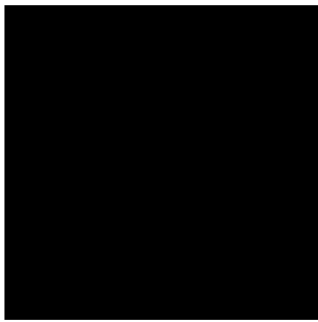
UNITY TEMPLE

SQUARE POSE



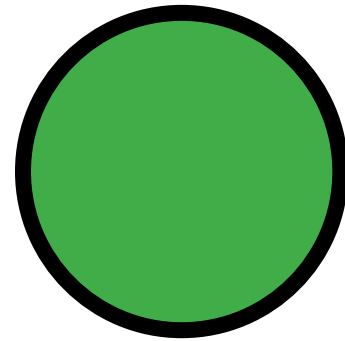
TRANSITION

**PREVIOUS
STATION**



SQUARE

**NEXT
STATION**



CIRCLE

**MOVEMENT
MARCHING**



The logo consists of a dark grey rectangle on the left and a red rectangle on the right, overlapping at the top. The text "TEACHING BY DESIGN" is written in white, uppercase letters on the dark grey background.

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ALTERNATE STATIONS

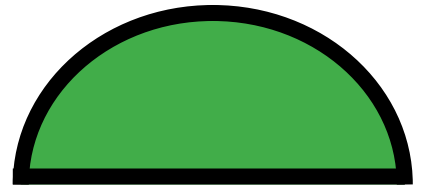
CIRCLE STATION



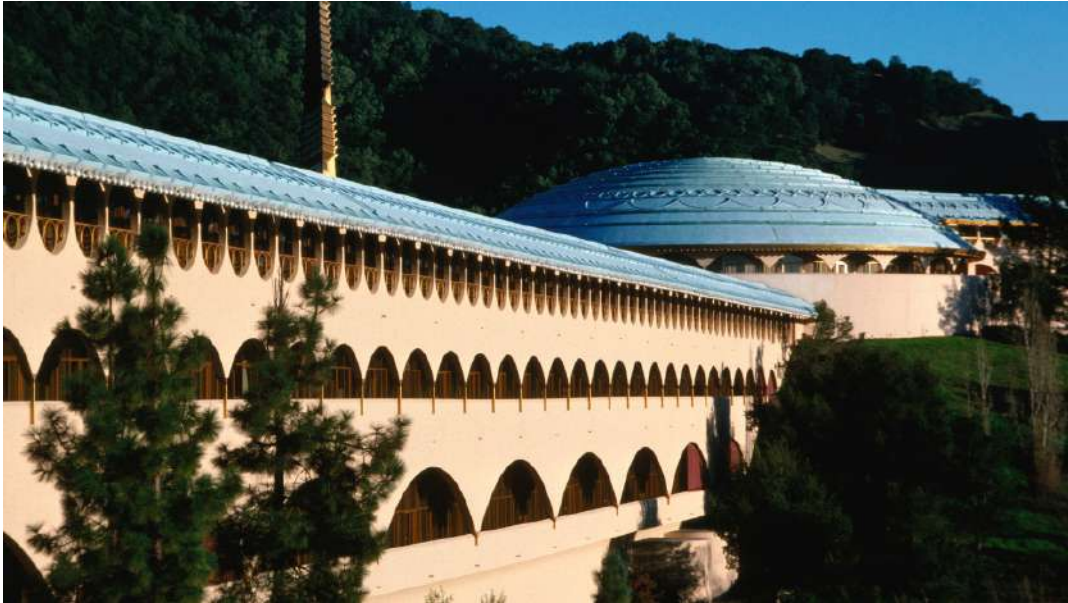
THE GUGGENHEIM

**RUN IN
PLACE
WHILE
SPINNING
IN A CIRCLE**





SEMICIRCLE STATION



MARIN CIVIC CENTER

**WIDE
LEG
SQUAT**

