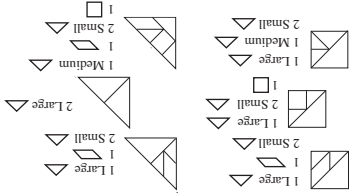


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**Congruence**  
 Congruent figures have the same size and shape. Ask children to look at a set of tangrams and find congruent shapes (small triangles; large triangles). Next, have them form a square using 1 large triangle, 1 medium triangle, and 2 small triangles. Then ask them to find other pieces that will form congruent squares using other tangram pieces. Have students record each square. Continue with congruent triangles.

Have them trace around the figures then cut them out and fold the shape to check its symmetry. Kids can make other symmetrical shapes, then share them with their peers.

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**WARNING:**  
 CHOKING HAZARD - Small parts.  
 Not for children under 3 years.

# Tangrams

Set of 30 Tangram Puzzles  
 6 Colors

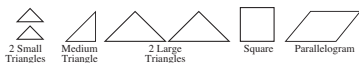
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# TANGRAMS

## Introduction

The tangram is an ancient Chinese puzzle consisting of a square divided into these seven geometric shapes:



This set contains 4 tangrams in 6 different colors. The plastic pieces are easy for young children to manipulate, and can be used for classwork or creative play.

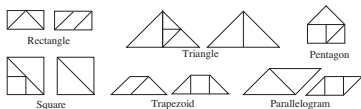
## Sorting the Pieces

Start by familiarizing children with the seven pieces of the tangram. Sorting is one way to do this. Using one complete tangram, children can:

- sort by shape
- sort by number of sides
- sort by shapes with the same area

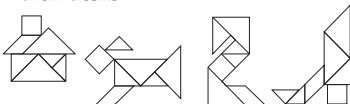
## Making Geometric Shapes

Using some or all of the pieces, children can make larger forms of the tangram square, parallelogram, and triangle. They also can make other shapes such as rectangles, trapezoids, pentagons, and hexagons. Let children explore with the shapes. Then have them trace around the pieces to record their shapes. Here are some possibilities:



## Tangram Puzzles

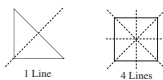
Use the tangram pieces to form the animals and objects as shown. Ask children to form these shapes at their desks.



Have them trace around the outside of the figures, and then decorate their shapes so they become recognizable figures. Encourage them to create their own figures.

## Symmetry

Guide youngsters in discovering which tangram pieces are symmetrical. Using the tangrams at their desks, have them trace around each piece, cut it out, then fold it to see if the two parts match. You may want to tell children that the fold line is called a *line of symmetry*. Children can fold their cutout pieces to find the number of symmetry lines for each shape. A suggested way of recording their work is shown below:



## Symmetrical Figures

Ask children to form symmetrical figures with their pieces:

