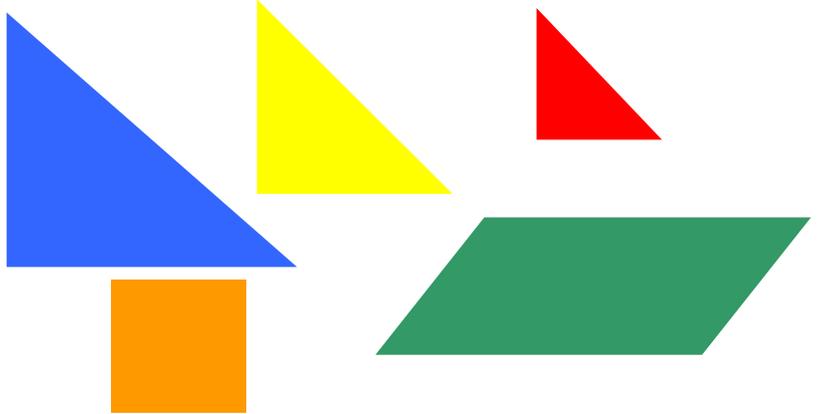


Tangrams Activity Guide

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tangram sets usually only include 7 pieces that are all the same color. We have included 1 extra medium (yellow) triangle and made each shape a unique color.



Shape	Color	Quantity
Square	Orange	2
Parallelogram	Green	2
Small Triangle	Red	4
Medium Triangle	Yellow	4
Large Triangle	Blue	4

Prior to Play:

Geometry Review: Discuss the properties of each shape and various way to describe the shape. Also discuss how to describe how to orient the shape without using the name or color of the specific shape. *Example:* Get the largest, 3 sided shape and position it with the right angle pointed up.

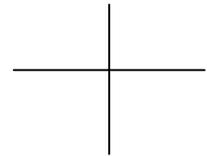
Triangle has 3 sides. The triangles in this tangram set are right angle triangles and have 2 sides of equal length. 3 different size triangles are included in this set.

Square has 4 sides of equal length.

Parallelogram – has 4 sides with opposite sides parallel to one another and therefore of equal length. The parallelogram in this set has included angles of 45 degree and 135 degrees.

Colors – Note that each shape in this set has a unique color.

Optional Set-Up: For some of the suggested activities it may be helpful to create one or two axes on the floor with floor tape. Each piece should be about 1 foot long. The axes would be used as an axis to help players describe where to position certain shapes.



Team Activities: The shapes in this set can be used as one large 16 piece set or 2 smaller 8 piece sets. Prior to starting determine if you will have one or two teams. The pictures included here are all designed for the 8 piece sets. For the larger sets, we suggest having instructors or students create their own shapes, photograph them and use the photographs as masters. 8 pictures or designs are included in this guide and are shown both in color or black and white. Students/players can be provided either the black images for added difficulty or the colored images for simpler play. The colored images also provide a key for instructors / judges to determine if the image has been completed properly.

Basic Using on the shapes create any of the pictures in the picture guide.

Timed Basic Create one shape, or a series of shapes in a specific sequence, and time how long it takes. See how fast different classes or groups can complete the shape(s).

Relay Race Timed All participants start at one end of the gym (or room) and all the shapes are at the other end. One at a time participants run to retrieve a piece and add it to the picture, until the picture is complete. If a team member retrieves a shape not in the current picture, then the next member must return that shape in exchange for another shape. For a series of pictures, after one picture is complete and approved by the instructor one team member returns all the shapes back to the opposite side of the gym and the team starts on the next image.

Crazy Race Spread all the shapes out in the gym before the class arrives. Have everyone on the team grab one piece of the puzzle in the picture at the same time and complete it as quick as possible. Extra pieces can be put to the side.

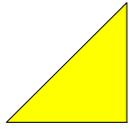
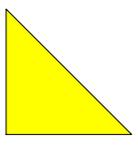
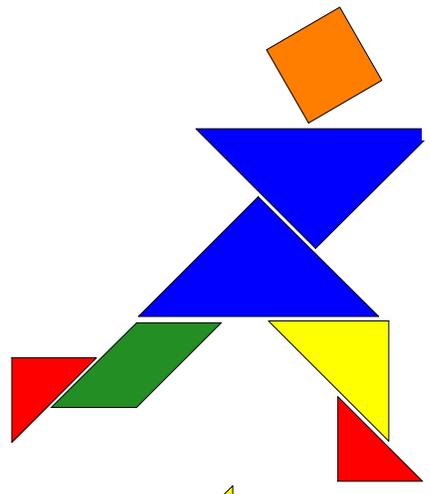
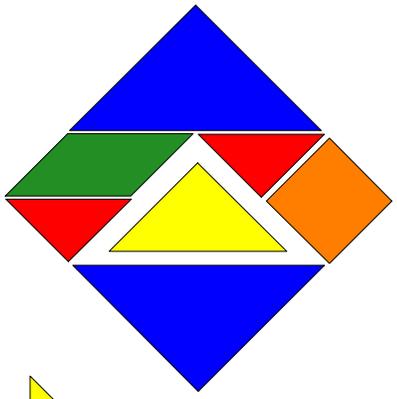
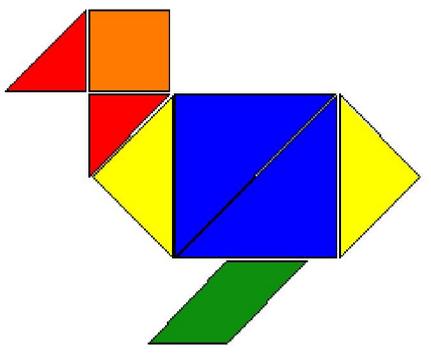
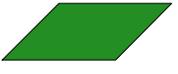
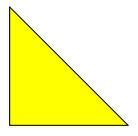
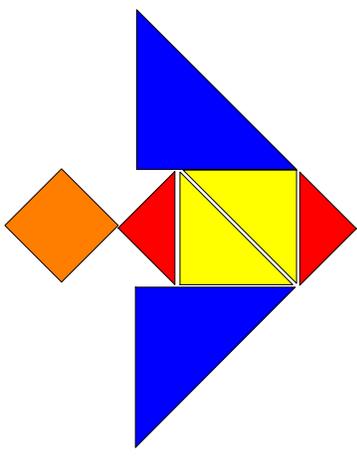
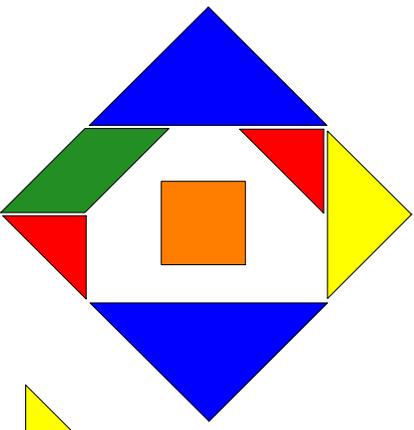
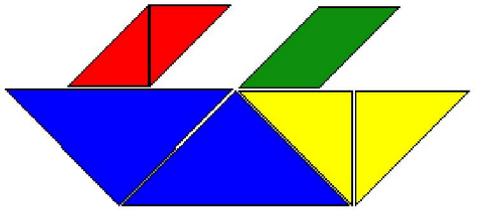
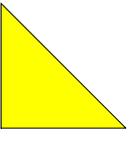
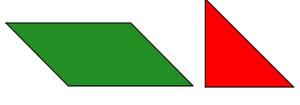
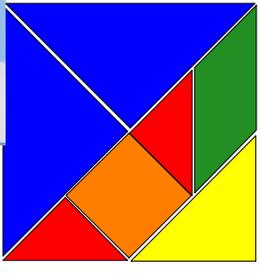
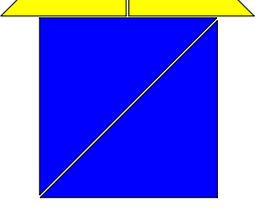
Memory Game Try any of the above activities where participants are only allowed to look at the picture for a specific period of time (try 15 seconds to start and vary according to your groups ability) prior to trying to replicate it! For sequences of pictures, allow the participants to look at the next image for the same period of time after they complete the previous picture.

Captain - Only person on the team is allowed to look at the picture and must describe to their teammates how to assemble the pieces into the final picture. For variations, restrict what words the captain can use. *Examples:* Allow only colors, don't allow colors, don't allow the name of the shapes, etc..

Blind Captain Only the captain can look at the picture and must describe to their teammates how to assemble the pieces into the final picture. The trick here is that they must have their back turned to their teammates and cannot look at it as it is assembled! The instructor must check and advise if the picture has been properly assembled. Again, restrictions on what types of words can be used to further increase the difficulty.

Additional Tangram Resources and a variety of puzzle are available on various website (not affiliated with S&S); we recommend www.tangrammit.com, www.tangrams.ca, and members.aol.com/sth777/

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