

# TANGRAMS

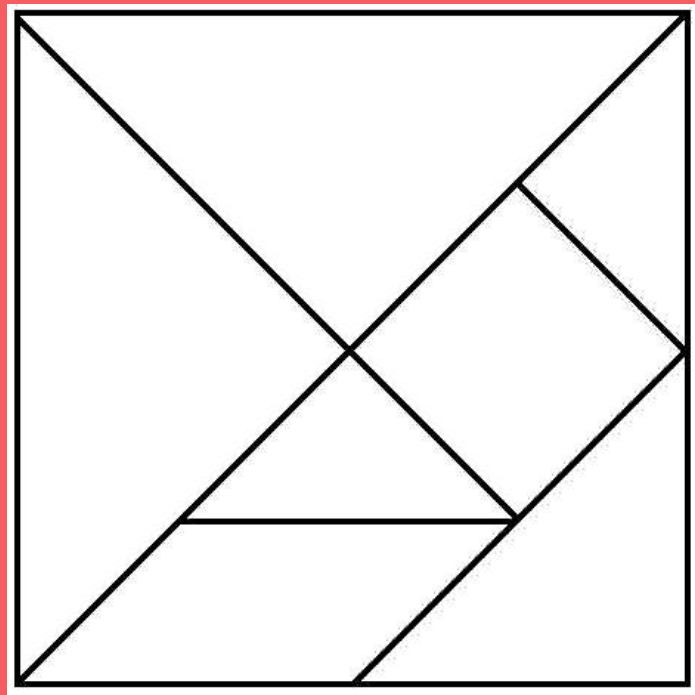
Geometry in Action!

# Tangrams

- The ancient Chinese art of tangram puzzles is a popular mathematical problem solving activity, finely tuned to bring out the best in pupils.
- The tangram puzzle consists of 7 geometric pieces which are normally boxed in the shape of a square. The pieces, called 'tans', are used to create different patterns including animals, people, numbers, geometric shapes and many more.
- A tangram consists of:
  - (1) square
  - (1) parallelogram
  - (5) triangles

# An assembled tangram ...

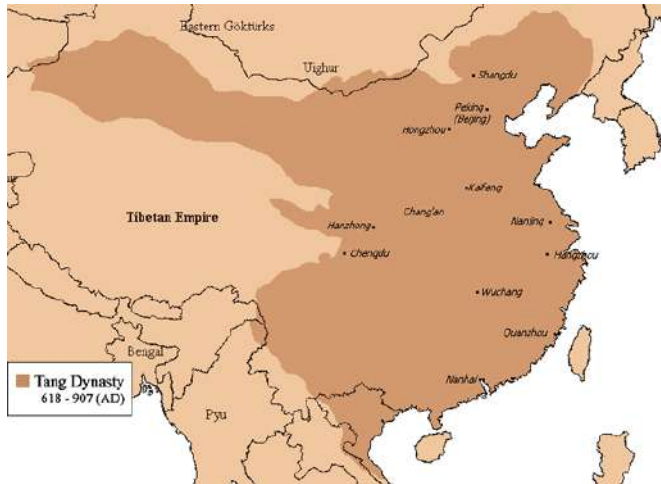
What shapes do you see?



# The History of the Tangram

<http://www.tangram-channel.com/history-of-the-tangram/>

# The History of the Tangram



Tangram puzzles originated in Imperial China during the Tang Dynasty, they are thought to have travelled to Europe in the 19th century on trading ships.

Tangram puzzles were popular during World War 1 and have become the most popular dissection puzzle in the world. Besides, tangram patterns have also been described as early psychological tests.

Tangram patterns are called in China "Chin-Chiao Pan" meaning intriguing seven piece puzzle.

A book published in China in 1815 by Shan-Chiao contains 374 puzzle patterns.

Early Chinese mathematicians manipulated geometric shapes in their problem solving. A technique that is still applied in classrooms today, ~~inter~~ alia, through the use of tangrams.

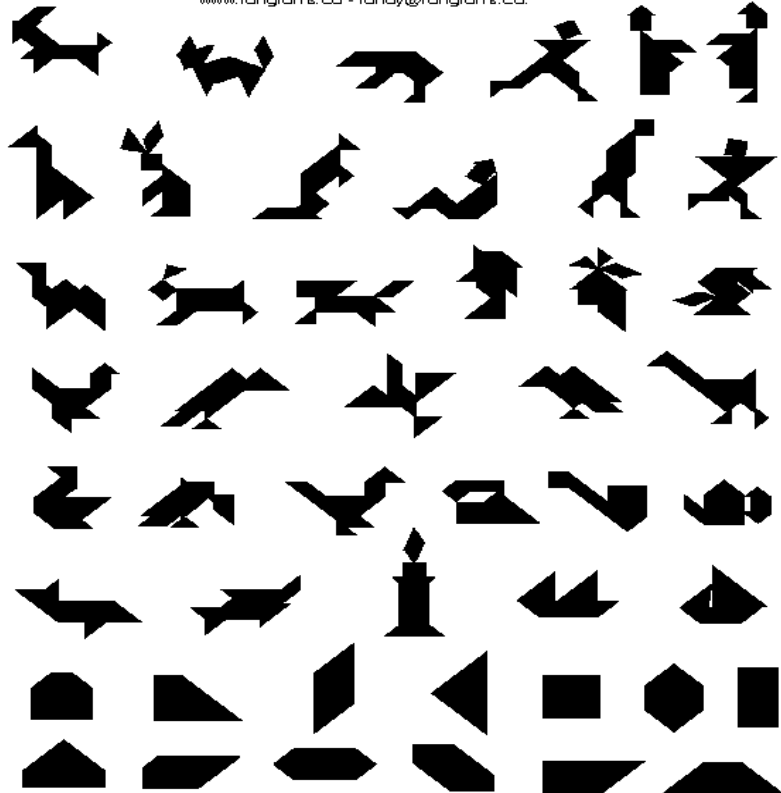
Your assignment ...

# Your assignment ...

- Cut out the tangram shapes provided.
- Try to make a different shape (other than square) that represents a story.
- Make at least 3 tangram shapes relating to a theme.
- Design a background on which you will place your tangram shapes.
- Glue your tangram shapes onto your background.
- Write a story to go along with your picture.

# Examples ...

Tangrams  
www.tangrams.ca - randy@tangrams.ca



Tangrams  
www.tangrams.ca - randy@tangrams.ca

