**Tangrams at Home**

**What You Need**
- Simple tangram pattern (Visit http://math.about.com/od/geom1/ss/tangram.htm)
- Several pieces of card stock, colored cardboard or construction paper.
- Scissors

**What To Do**
Trace the pattern onto the card stock or cardboard and cut out the pieces.
Can you name the shapes of all of the tangram pieces?
**Observe...**

How many ways can you make a square with the pieces?
Can you make a square without using any triangles?
Can you make a square using all seven pieces?
Can you make a trapezoid without using the square piece?

**Learn...**

Tangram puzzles come from China, but no one knows how old they are. The seven flat pieces, called tans, form a square and are used for making other shapes.

**Investigate...**

Now that you can make geometric shapes with the tans, try making other things such as animal shapes, rockets, and buildings.

*You can find more information about tangrams on-line:*

Making tangrams
http://math.about.com/od/tangrams/Tangram_Puzzles.htm

Tangrams at PBSkids:
http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/games/area/area.html

Tangrams at the Library of Virtual Manipulatives:
http://nlvm.usu.edu/en/nav/frames_asid_268_g_1_t_3.html?open=activities&from=category_g_1_t_3.html

Tangrams at ABC-ya
http://www.abcya.com/tangrams.htm (Site shows an ad, but the pieces are easy to manipulate.)

*This activity is brought to you by the BGSU Department of Mathematics and Statistics*

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