



Geometric Shapes: TANGRAMS (3-5)

The SCIENCE of PUZZLES:

Geometry is a branch of math that relates points, lines and surfaces – also known as shapes.



A **parallelogram** is a four-sided shape rectilinear figure with opposite sides parallel. A square, rectangle, rhombus and rhomboid are all parallelograms.

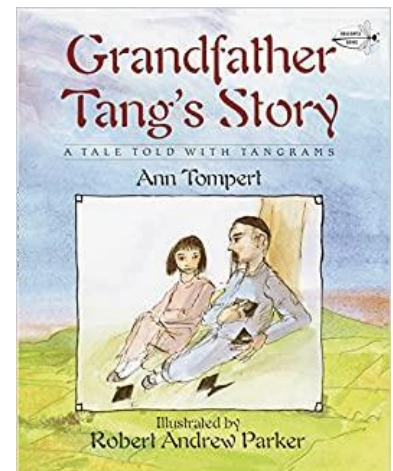
The tangram puzzle dates back to the **Tang** Dynasty in China.

To complete a puzzle, *all* the pieces must be used!

LITERACY CONNECTION:

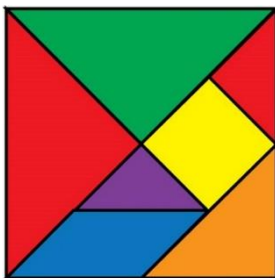
[*Grandfather Tang's Story*](#) by Ann Tompert is filled with examples of interesting tangram puzzles while sharing a heartwarming story.

- Don't have this book at home? There are digital versions of the book and [videos](#) online.



ACTIVITY: TANGRAMS

Materials: scissors, square piece of paper/cardboard, TANGRAM outline, ruler/straightedge



1. Print out the TANGRAM pattern – OR – draw one on a piece of paper

TIP: Draw a square with 5-inch sides to get you started

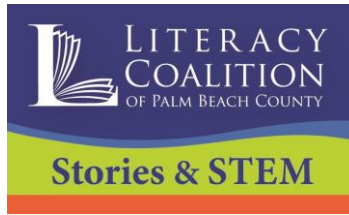
2. Color the shapes (different colors if you want)
3. Cut out the shapes
4. Create NEW pictures using all seven shapes!

For more free TANGRAM ideas visit [The Tangram Channel](#)

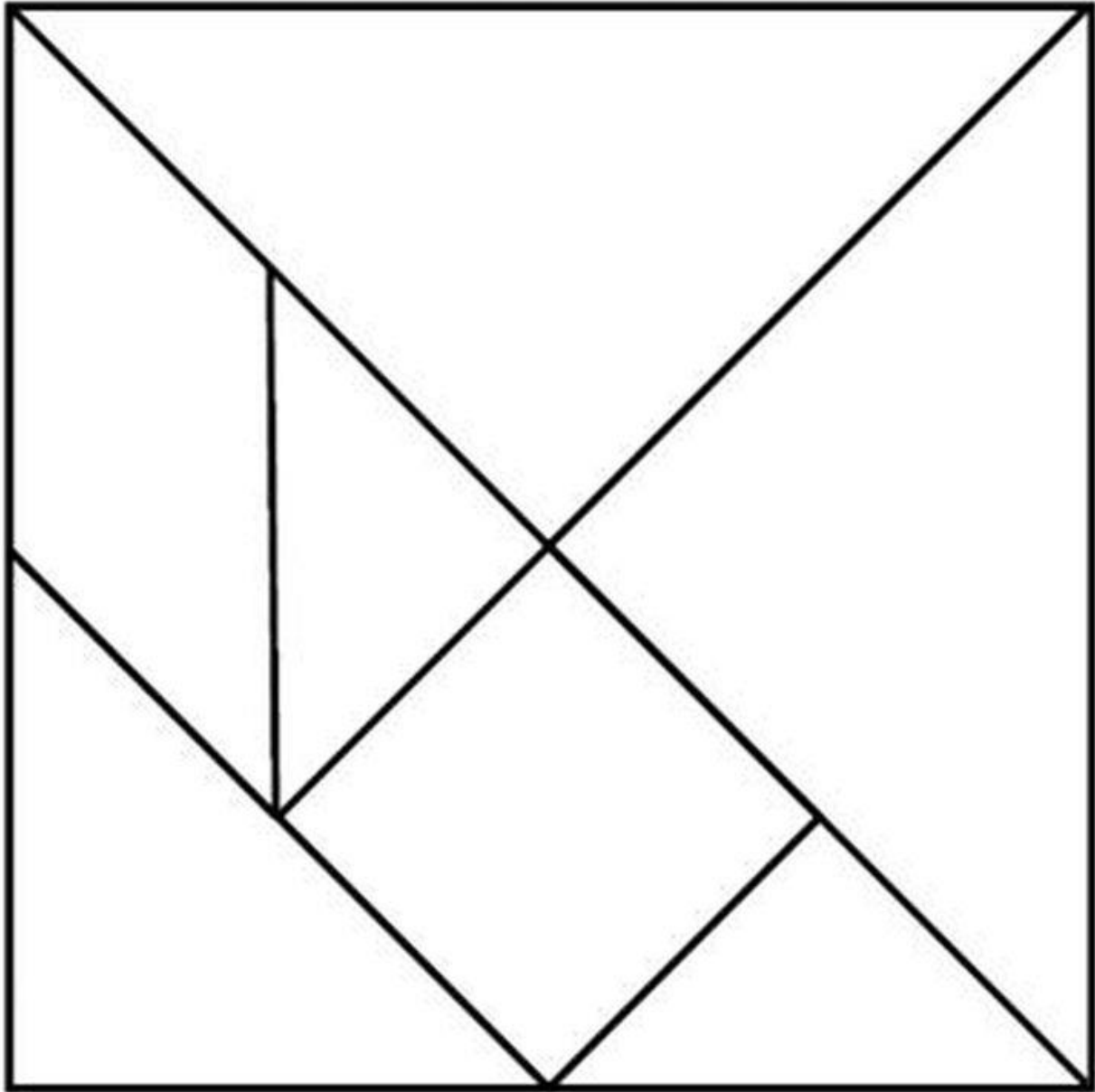
For step-by-step instructions, watch the video at: [Tangrams STEM Activity](#)

This at-home educational activity is from the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County's literacy-based Stories & STEM program. Stories & STEM is made possible with support from Prime Time Palm Beach County, Inc., which receives significant funding from the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County, Inc.

Having fun? Send pictures or video links of you and your Stories & STEM projects to csharkey@literacypbc.org



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