



Tangram Shape Art

CONTENT Standard:

CCSS.3.G.1

ARTS Standard

VA:Cr.1.3.b

Pacing

(1) 30-45 minute
session

21st Century Skills

- Critical Thinking
- Creative thinking
- Communication

Materials List

- Grandfather Tang's Story by Ann Tompert
- A set of tangrams for each student
- Tangram template
- Tangram cards
- Drawing paper
- Drawing pencils

Assessment: Formative Choices

Observe students working alone and in pairs to reason with their tangram shapes to recreate given images, as well as to create new ones.

Use the [assessment rubric](#) provided with this lesson.

Lesson Sequence

Step 1: Give each student a set of tangrams. Have students identify all seven pieces. Give them time to explore and have them put the seven pieces in a perfect square, as well as time to create different shapes. Students may use the [tangram template](#) to guide them if needed.

Step 2: Distribute [tangram cards outlines](#) and ask students to identify each image. Have students work in pairs to try to recreate each image with their tangrams. Provide corresponding solution cards for students to reference.

Step 3: Display pieces of geometric visual art. Have students create the shapes they identify using their tangrams. Explore how the elements of shape effect both the outcome of the tangram and the composition of the visual art examples.

Step 4: Read Grandfather Tang's Story (Ann Tompert). As you read the story, students can try to figure out the next animal by using the clues given in the reading. Have students arrange their tangrams to replicate each image as you read the story.

Step 5: Have students create and draw a new tangram animal. They will then write a new page for the story to introduce their animal, and illustrate this page, including their tangram animal.

TEACHER NOTES