TANGRAM FISH

AGES

Children 8+ years
Tweens

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A tangram is a puzzle in which
different designs can be made by
arranging geometric shapes. This
can be a passive program, a filler for
another program, or a game where the
fish get progressively more difficult.
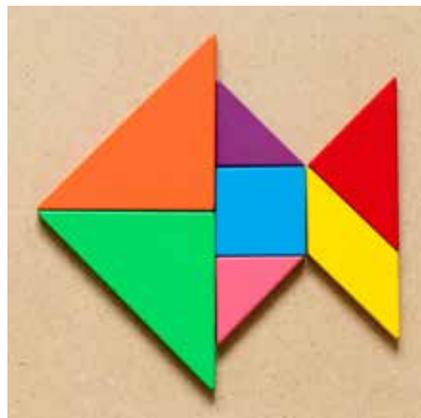Suggested runtime: 30 min.

Image source: Shutterstock

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Materials: Colored paper or construction paper, scissors, laminator
(optional)

Instructions:

In advance, cut the geometric shapes out of the colored paper and
laminate them if desired. You can also purchase foam tangrams for
participants of all ages. A traditional set of tangram shapes includes two
small triangles, one medium triangle, two large triangles, one square, and
one parallelogram.

UNIQUE SPACE AND/OR PERSONNEL NEEDS

Solo-librarian friendly.

RESOURCES

Web

About tangrams from *Study.com*: https://bit.ly/3bV3JKT

Tangram fish inspiration from *Class Playground*: https://bit.ly/3utc5zS

Tangram fish inspiration from *Scout Life Magazine*: https://bit.ly/2SyHYd8

Tangram fish inspiration from *Seesaw*: https://bit.ly/3hY4lTT

Tangram ideas for preschoolers from *Prekinders*: https://bit.ly/2QYVzdt

ADAPTATION:

Large foam tangrams
also work well for early
literacy.

ADAPTATIONS:

This can be a passive
activity where children
design their own tangram
animals and have others
guess what they are.
Alternatively, you can
create a game to see who
can complete a tangram
the quickest.

Books

Non-fiction

Math by the Ocean (Math is Everywhere!) (2017) by Kieran Shah (children's)

A Math Journey Under the Ocean (Go Figure!) (2016) by Hilary Koll (children's)

Grasping Mysteries: Girls Who Loved Math (2020) by Jeannine Atkins (children's)

Fiction

Color Zoo (1997) by Lois Ehlert (children's)

The Greedy Triangle (2008) by Marilyn Burns and Gordon Silveria (children's)

How to Code a Sandcastle (2018) by Josh Funk and Sarah Palacios (children's)

Printables

Tangram Template