

Tangrams

Activity 1 - Making Tangrams



A tangram is an ancient Chinese puzzle. According to legend, a scholar named Tan discovered the game by accidentally dropping a square porcelain tile and breaking it into seven geometric pieces.

The seven tangram pieces are: two congruent small triangles (equal to each other in shape and size), two large congruent triangles, one medium sized triangle, one small square, and one parallelogram. These seven pieces can be arranged to form a square.

For this activity you will need: a rectangular piece of a paper that can be folded, scissors and a ruler.

1. Fold a rectangular piece of paper so that a square is formed. Cut off the extra part.



Can you believe THIS is math?

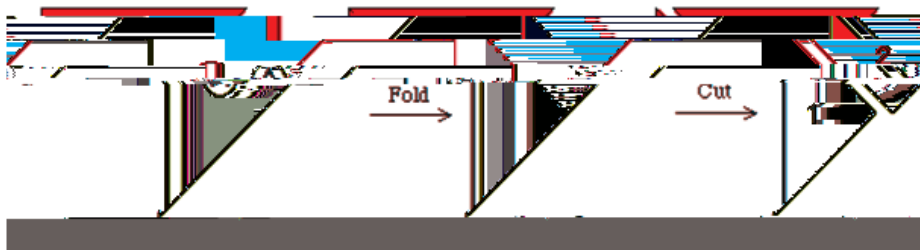
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2. Cut the square into two triangles



3. Take one triangle and fold it in half. Cut the triangle along the fold into two smaller triangles.



4. Take the other triangle and crease it in the middle. Fold the corner of the triangle opposite the crease and cut.



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