

Terrific Tangrams

Square is feeling sad.

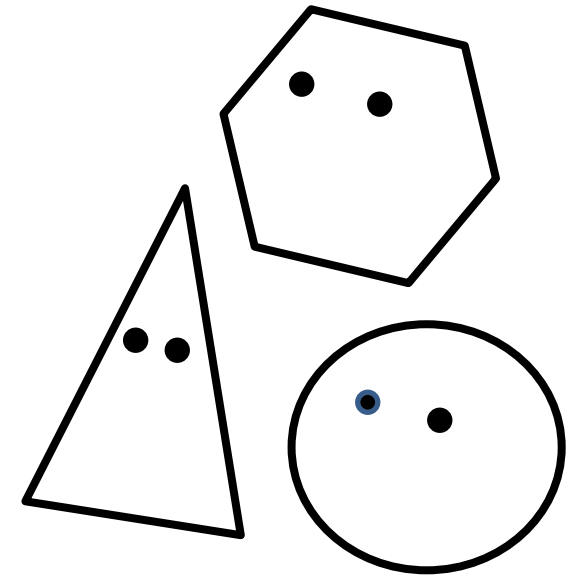
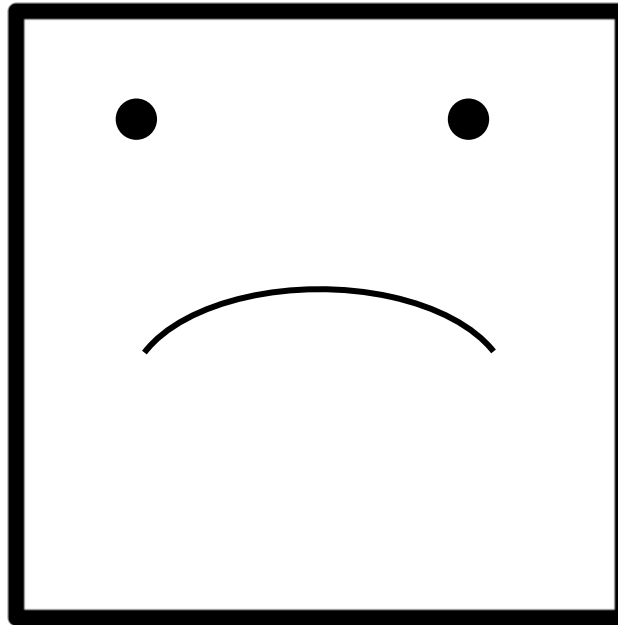
The other shapes say Square is boring and uncool.

Circle is special because it has a curved line; it can roll and is round like the sun.

Triangle is a very strong shape and is good for building; it's pointed like a mountain.

Hexagon can join other hexagons to make an interesting repeating pattern, leaving no gaps – that's why bees use hexagons in beehives! Hexagons can also team up with pentagons to make a football!

Square wants to prove to the other shapes that it can go outside its box and be just as interesting as they are!



Did you know that a square can split into seven geometric shapes made up of two small triangles, one medium triangle, two large triangles, a square and a parallelogram? This is called a **Tangram**

Find out how to make a tangram here:

<http://www.mathsontost.org.uk/how-to-make-a-toasty->

Terrific Tangrams

A tangram is an ancient Chinese puzzle.

Colour or decorate one of the tangrams, cut out along the lines of the tangram and try rearranging the pieces to create new shapes. There are some ideas for you to try below.



Can you put
the pieces
back to make
a square?

Use your other tangram to help Square prove the shapes wrong!

Think about what Square could become. Rearrange the pieces of your second tangram to create something special. Perhaps a dragon or a bird! Remember you can rotate and flip the shapes to help!

Why not create a background for your design – to make some beautiful mathematical art.

You can find some ideas here: <https://www.mathsontoast.org.uk/join-in-projects-and-galleries/join-in-spring-2022/>

Why is this maths?

Tangrams are maths because you're practising using and remembering the names of shapes. As you play you are developing spatial skills as you get a feel for how they fit together – what can you make from two triangles? When is a right angle helpful? What clever things in the puzzle make it a good game?

For more fun activities visit www.mathsontoast.org.uk

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