## **Tangrams**

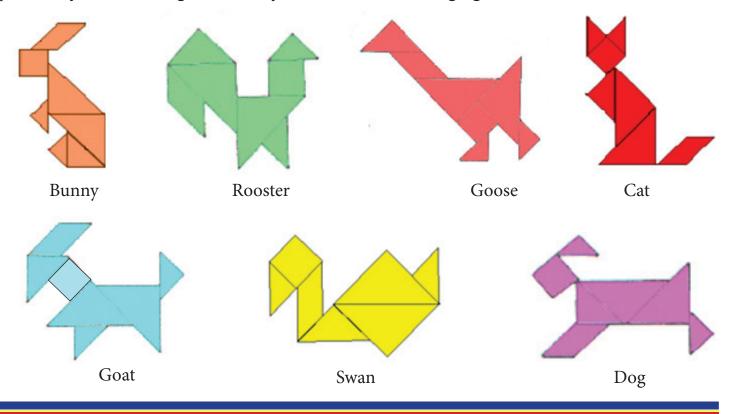
#### **Activity 2 - Animal Tangrams**



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 form a complete tangram puzzle. You can see how these pieces fit into a square.

With tangrams you can make many types of animals. Try to make these by rearranging the pieces in your set of tangrams so they resemble the following figures:



Can you believe THIS is math?

## **Tangrams**

### **Activity 2 - Animal Tangrams - continued**

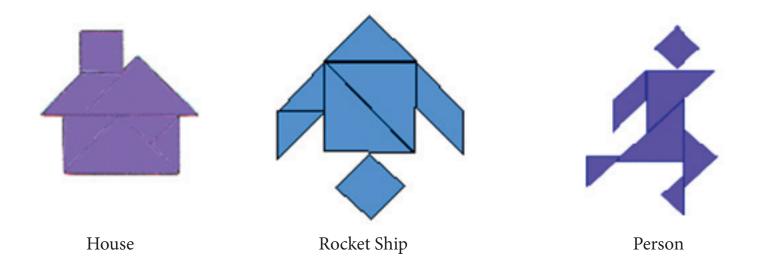
#### **Activity Questions:**

Did you know that there is more than one way to make a bunny, and there are several ways to make a cat? Try to make different bunnies and cats with your tangrams.

What is your favourite animal? Can you construct it with your tangram set?

Can you think of other animals which are not shown here? See if you can construct them with tangrams.

With friends or family, write a short story or poem about two of your tangrams. You can use some other shapes in the story or poem as well!



# Can you believe THIS is math?