

Chinese New Year: Tangram Animals

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1. Question

- Your teacher has just announced that you will have a celebration in honor of the Chinese New Year, but your class must provide the entertainment!
- After brainstorming, your class has decided to have a puppet show, but how will you make the puppets?
- You have been learning about tangrams in math. You have learned what shapes make up the tangram.



Image Source: www.clipart.com

In this Slam Dunk, you will conduct brief, focused research to respond to the inquiry question:

How can we use tangrams to create animal characters for a Chinese New Year story?

2. Information Sources

Please use your note taking [organizer](#) to answer the questions below. You may need to login to some of the resources below. Please see your teacher/librarian for usernames and passwords.

What is Chinese New Year?	World Book Kids World Book Student
How is the Chinese New Year celebrated?	Happy Chinese New Year Chinese New Year
What is the role of animals in the Chinese New Year?	Chinese Zodiac Chinese Zodiac (World Book Kids)
What character are you thinking about creating with your tangram pieces?	Tangram Animals



Image Source: www.clipart.com

3. Student Activity

Now that you have decided on the animal that you are going to create, use the paper provided from the teacher to make your animal.

Be sure that your tangram has the following:

- Use all seven pieces.
- Flip at least one shape.
- Rotate at least one shape.

Here is the [checklist](#) that you can use to make sure that everything is included.



Image Source: www.clipart.com

4. Assessment Activity

Paste Inquiry Question Here

You may browse through the following books summaries to gain some ideas about how to tell a story.

- [Grandfather Tang's Story](#) by Ann Tompert
- [Three Pigs, One Wolf and Seven Magic Shapes](#) by Grace Maccarone

In order to be prepared for the play you will create the following:

- an introduction about ways to celebrate the Chinese New Year.
- An [organizer](#) with a beginning, middle, and end about the adventures of your tangram characters.
- Use this [rubric](#) to check your work.



Image Source: www.clipart.com

5. Enrichment Activities



Image Source: www.clipart.com

You can use the sites below to continue to practice your skills.

- [ABCya Tangram](#)
- [PBS Tangram Game](#)
- [Mathigon](#)
- [Pattern Shapes](#)

6. Teacher Resources

Learning Standards Alignment

Content Learning Standards

- Students will analyze transformations in geometric figures and pictures.
- KSI-A Identify and describe the results of a slide, flip, and turn.
- The student will compose texts using the prewriting and drafting strategies of effective writers and speakers.
- Plan and organize ideas for writing by using an appropriate organizational structure such as chronological order or sequential order, comparison and contrast. (2.B)

Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy

Reading: 1. Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

Writing: 7. Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

AASL Standards Framework for Learners Inquire: Build new knowledge by inquiring, thinking critically, identifying problems, and developing strategies for solving problems.

Think: Learners display curiosity and initiative by:

I.A.2 Recalling prior and background knowledge as context for new meaning.

Create: Learners engage with new knowledge by following a process that includes:

I.B.1 Using evidence to investigate questions. I.B.3 Generating products that illustrate learning.

Share: Learners adapt, communicate, and exchange learning products with others in a cycle that includes:

I.C.1 Interacting with content presented by others.

Grow: Learners participate in an ongoing inquiry-based process by:

I.D.2 Engaging in sustained inquiry.

P21 Framework: 21st Century Student Outcomes

3. Information, Media & Technology Skills: Information Literacy: Access information efficiently and effectively; Use information accurately and creatively for the issue or problem at hand.

ICT Literacy: Use technology as a tool to research, organize, evaluate and communicate information.

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Grade 1 Math

Differentiation strategies for this lesson:

- Have students use learning supports provided in BCPS Digital Content found in the [Apps Portal](#). Refer to [Digital Content Snapshot/Support pages](#) as needed.

Notes to the teacher:

- Collaborate with your school library media specialist to plan and implement this lesson.
- Provide students with login information as needed to authenticate BCPS Digital Content. Login information is available on the **BCPS Digital Content** page found via the [Apps Portal](#)
- Teachers can use the stories from slide 4 as introduction to unit.
- This lesson could be a great lesson for collaboration between art teacher (puppets) classroom teacher (write story) , and media specialist (research for Chinese New Year).

Last updated: July 2023 Report broken links to BCPS Library Media Programs using the [Library Media Broken Links Form](#).

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