



Tangram

Activity sheet

- **Target group:** 8+ years old
- **Duration:** 45 minutes
- **Material needed:**
 - Tangram pieces
 - Story + pictogram sheets (*Jack and the Beanstalk*)
- **Key competence:** Numeracy skills

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

This activity uses tangram puzzles, which are geometric dissection puzzles consisting of seven flat pieces that can be combined in different ways to create different shapes representing objects, animals or people. It encourages the use of one's **imagination**.

It aims to **facilitate communication and comprehension of spatial concepts, shape recognition**, as well as **problem-solving skills**. It promotes numeracy skills by helping children understand geometric properties and concepts, such as symmetry.

Additionally, this activity allows the children to enhance their fine motor skills and cognitive development through hands-on manipulation.



IMPLEMENTATION

1. **Giving the instructions:** Explain the goal of the activity to the children.
2. **Identifying the shapes:** Pair the children in groups. Distribute a set of tangram pieces to each group. Show each piece and ask the children to identify the shapes.
3. **Solving the puzzles:** Distribute the puzzle sheets and let the children solve the tangrams by combining the pieces to create different shapes.
4. **Checking the solutions:** Once everyone has solved the puzzles, take the solution sheets and go through each tangram to check that it was correctly completed. Discuss the possible variations that could exist.
5. **Making links with the story:** Ask the children to identify the shapes created by combining the pieces. What do they see? How do they remind them of the story of *Jack and the Beanstalk*? Make them show the pictograms that represent the characters/objects in the tangrams. Let them retell the story with the help of the tangrams.

POTENTIALS FOR AAC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Tangram puzzles offer an interesting opportunity for speech development by creating an interactive and engaging environment where children can practice language skills. As they manipulate the pieces to form various shapes, they are encouraged to **use language to describe their actions, express their needs, and share their thoughts**. By working together to solve the puzzles, the children



learn to negotiate, give and follow instructions, and provide feedback, further enhancing their expressive and receptive language abilities.

This activity also encourages vocabulary expansion regarding geometry terminology by (re)introducing terms related to shapes, positions and spatial relationships (e.g., “rotate”).





















