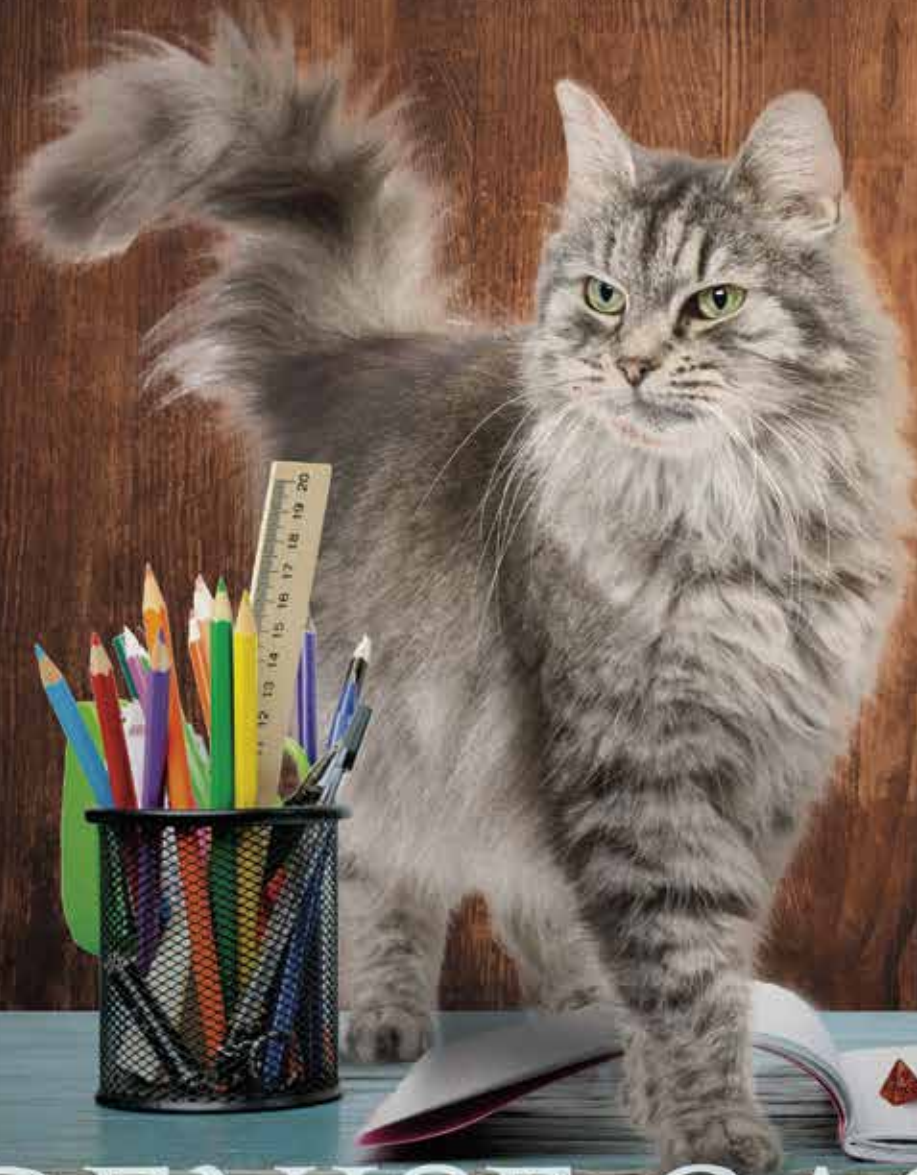


All the Cool Cats Play Math



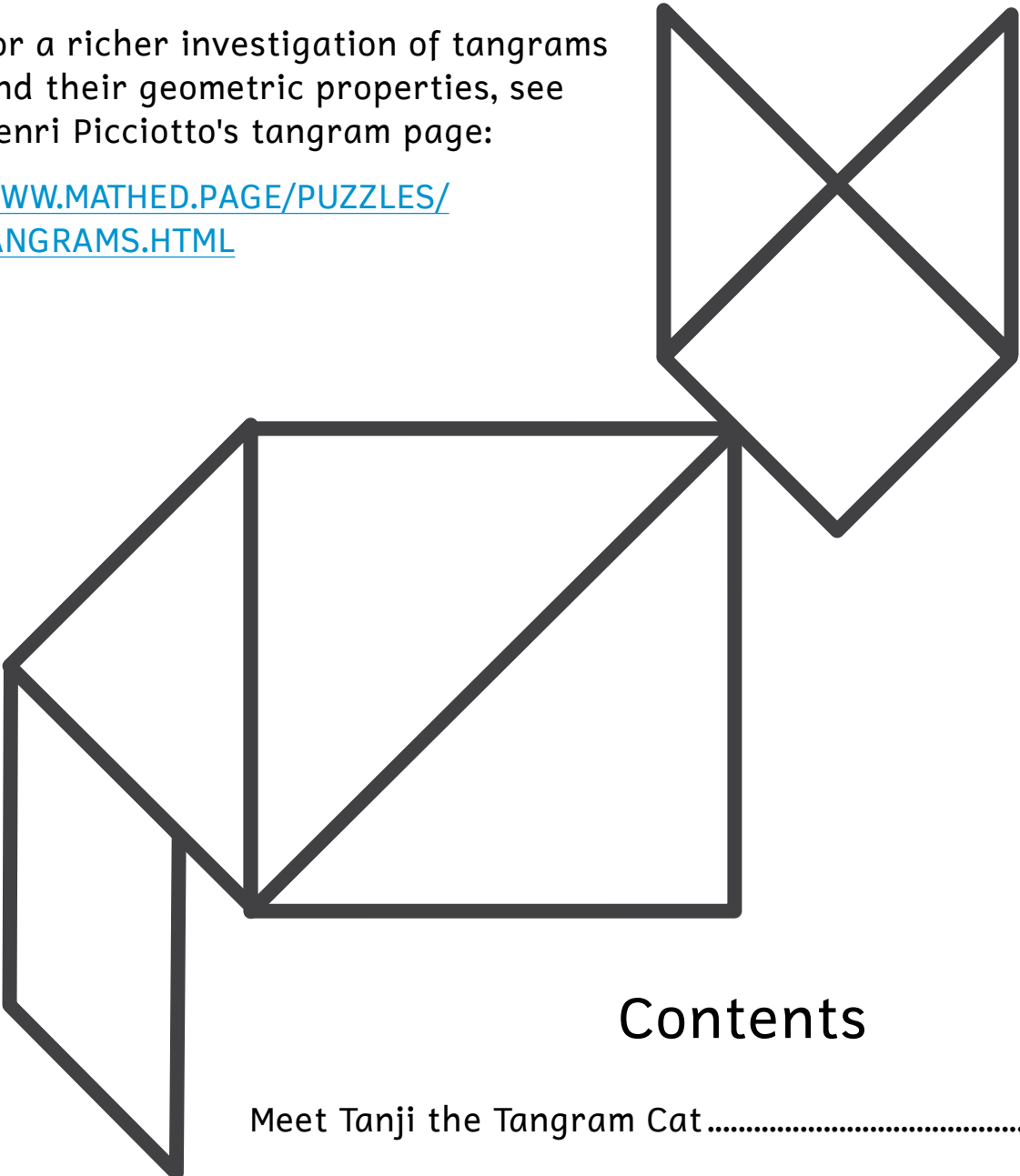
A SHORT
ADVENTURE
IN CREATIVE
GEOMETRY

DENISE GASKINS

AUTHOR OF *LET'S PLAY MATH: HOW FAMILIES CAN LEARN MATH TOGETHER AND ENJOY IT*

For a richer investigation of tangrams and their geometric properties, see Henri Picciotto's tangram page:

WWW.MATHED.PAGE/PUZZLES/TANGRAMS.HTML



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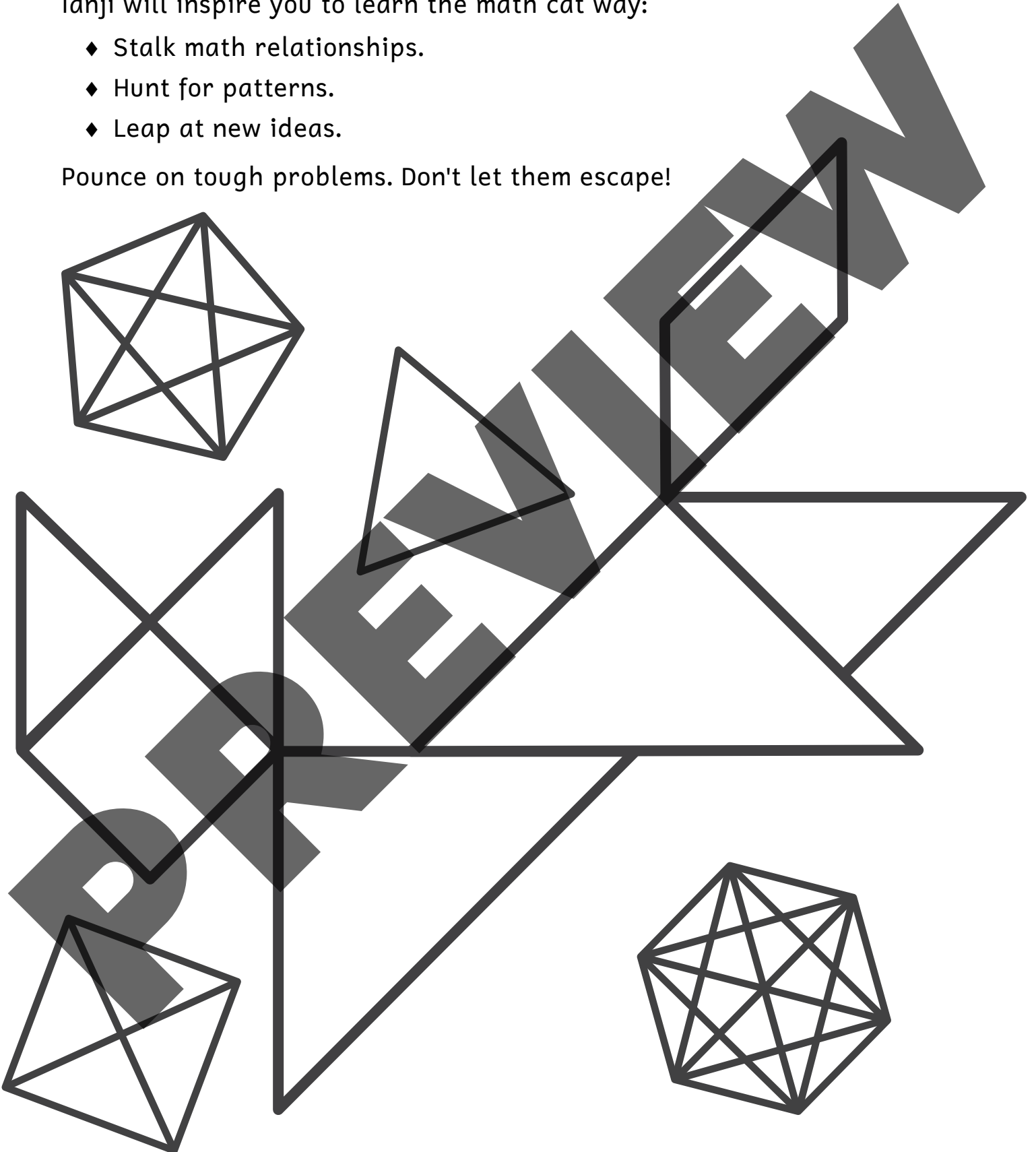
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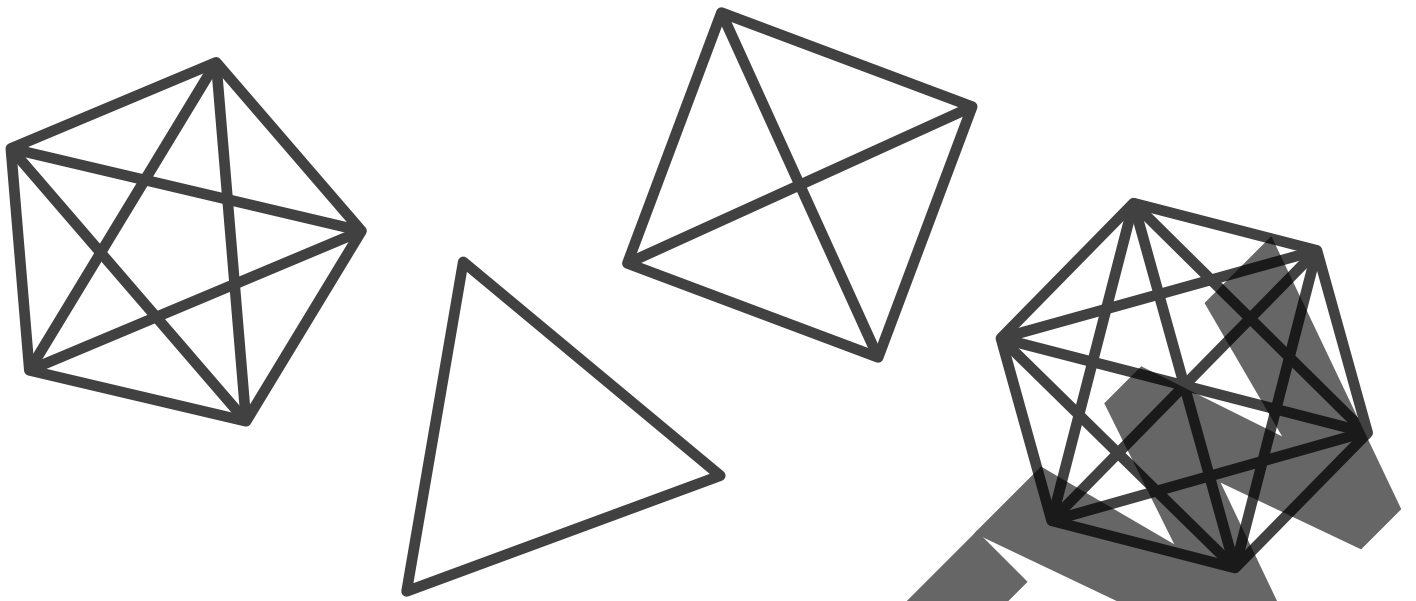
Meet Tanji the Tangram Cat

Tanji will inspire you to learn the math cat way:

- ◆ Stalk math relationships.
- ◆ Hunt for patterns.
- ◆ Leap at new ideas.

Pounce on tough problems. Don't let them escape!





Tanji's Polygons Puzzle

Tanji has a cool collection of gaming dice that cast shadows in the shapes of polygons:

- ◆ What do you notice about the shapes?
- ◆ What do you notice about the angles?
- ◆ What do you wonder?
- ◆ What questions can you ask?

Record your observations below, or use the math cats journaling page.

PREVIEW

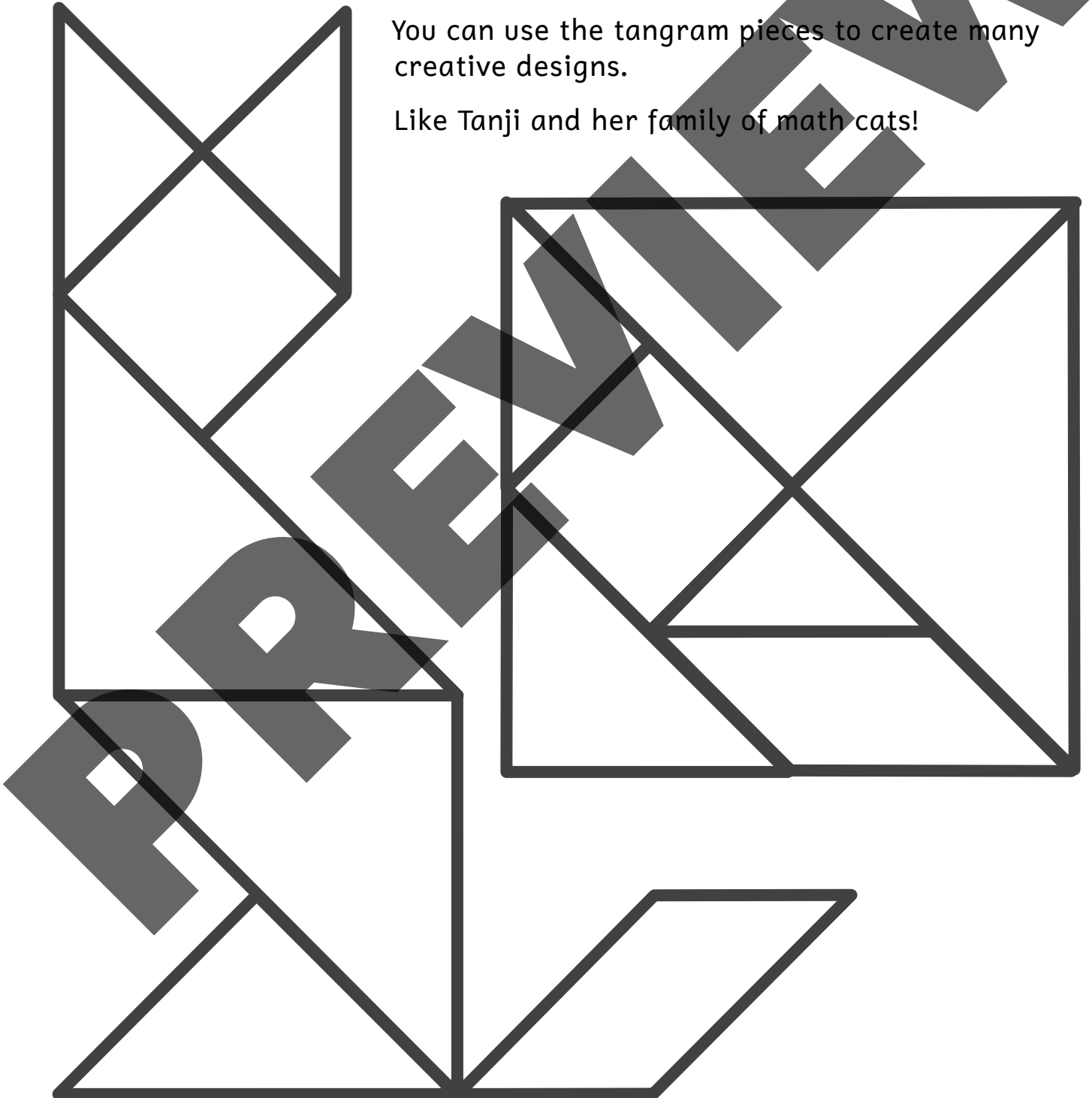
What Are Tangrams?

Tangrams are seven pieces cut from a single square.

- ◆ What do you notice about the shapes?
- ◆ What do you notice about the angles?
- ◆ What do you wonder?
- ◆ What questions can you ask?

You can use the tangram pieces to create many creative designs.

Like Tanji and her family of math cats!



Can you fill in the tangram pieces to make these cool cats?

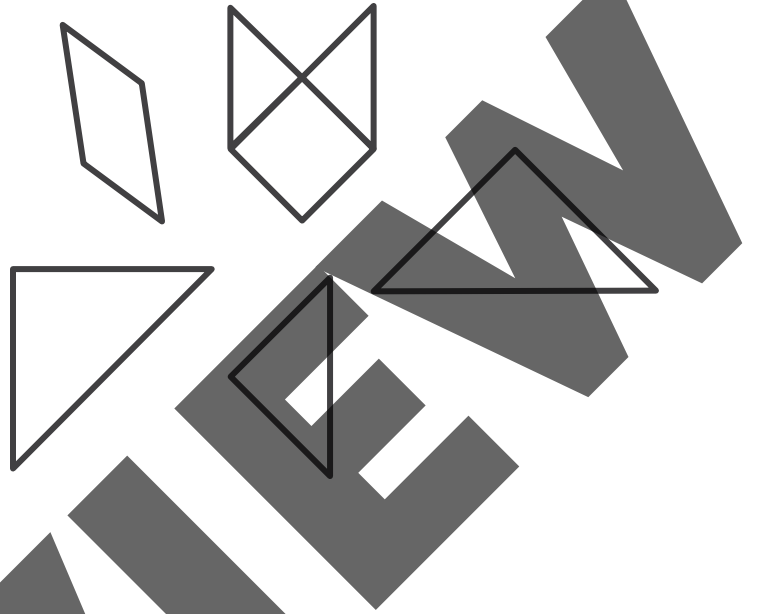


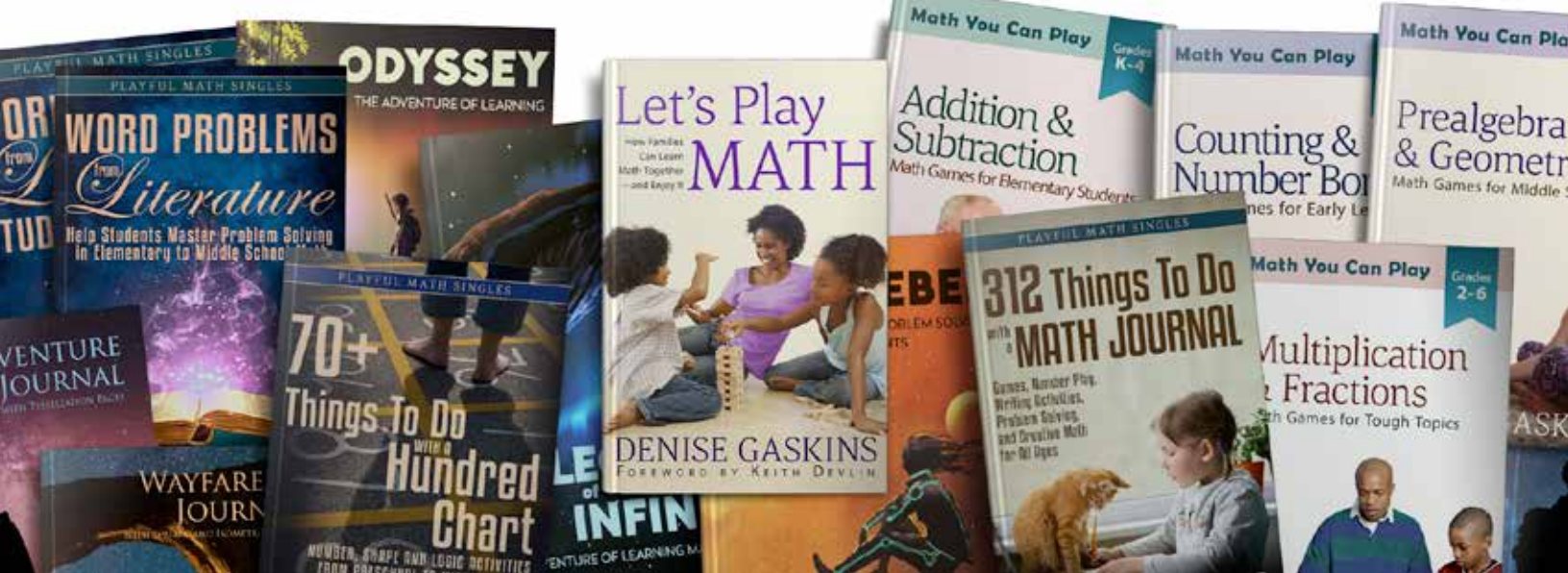
Create Your Own Tangram Creature

You might start with a head like Tanji's and then add the other pieces to create your creature's body.

Or make any design you like.

Then trace the outline of your tangram design and challenge your friends to figure out how to fit the pieces together.





Playful Math Books by Denise Gaskins

TabletopAcademyPress.com

Then Explore the *Math You Can Play* Series

“Denise has gathered up a treasure trove of living math resources for busy parents. If you’ve ever struggled to see how to make math come alive beyond your math curriculum (or if you’ve ever considered teaching math without a curriculum), you’ll want to check out her books.”

—Kate Snow, author of *Multiplication Facts That Stick*

You’ll love these math games because they give your child a strong foundation for mathematical success.

By playing these games, you strengthen your child’s intuitive understanding of numbers and build problem-solving strategies. Mastering a math game can be hard work. But kids do it willingly because it’s fun.

Math games prevent math anxiety. Games pump up your child’s mental muscles, reduce the fear of failure, and generate a positive attitude toward mathematics.

So what are you waiting for? Clear off a table, grab a deck of cards, and let’s play some math.

Or Try a Playful Math Single

Denise’s *Playful Math Singles* series features short, topical books loaded with clear explanations and ready-to-play activities.

70+ Things To Do with a Hundred Chart shows you how to take your child on a mathematical adventure through playful, practical activities. Who knew math could be so much fun?

312 Things To Do with a Math Journal includes number play prompts, games, math art, story problems, mini-essays, geometry investigations, brainteasers, number patterns, and research projects for all ages.

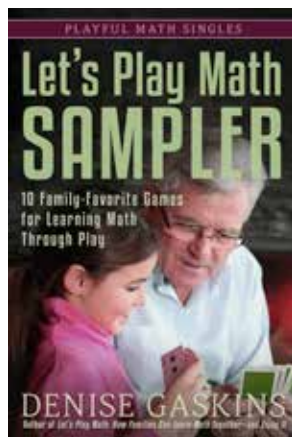
More titles coming soon. Watch for them at your favorite online bookstore.

Start Here: *Let’s Play Math Sampler*

Do you want your family to enjoy learning math? Then learn how to play!

In excerpts from author Denise Gaskins’s most popular books, the *Let’s Play Math Sampler* features ten kid-tested games covering math concepts from counting to prealgebra.

Get the *Let’s Play Math Sampler* and discover how to make math a playful family adventure.



Or Go Directly to *Let’s Play Math*

Transform your family’s experience of math! Even if you struggled with mathematics in school, you can help your children enjoy learning and prepare them for academic success.

Denise makes it easy with this mixture of math games, low-prep project ideas, and inspiring coffee-chat advice from a veteran homeschooling mother of five. Drawing on more than thirty years of teaching experience, she provides helpful tips for parents with kids from preschool to high school, whether your children learn at home or attend a traditional classroom.

Don’t let your children suffer from the epidemic of math anxiety. Pick up your copy of *Let’s Play Math: How Families Can Learn Math Together and Enjoy It*, and start bringing math alive today.

