40 Weeks of Math Challenges

Week 11

These visual math challenges have been created to intrigue and inspire your children. They are designed to be hands on, open-ended inquiries, to challenge them to think deeply about the world around them.

Each week a new set will be released with four levels.

• Preschool

• Years 1/2 (approx. age 6-8)

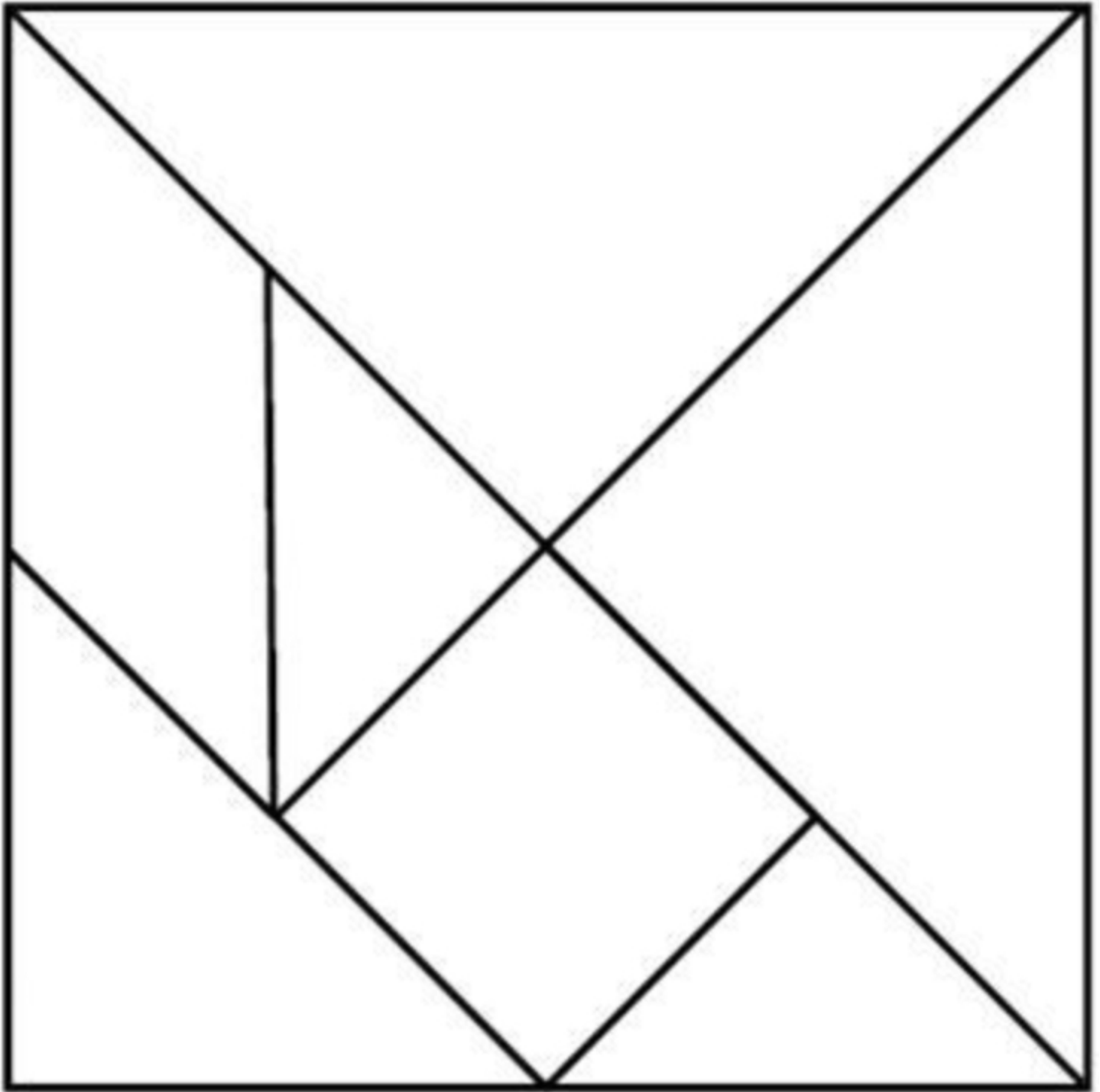• Year 3/4 (approx ages 8-10)

• Year 5/6 (approx. ages 10-12)

I hope you enjoy exploring the ideas with your children! The challenges don't require any special resources, however your children will need a 'Math Journal' to record their discoveries. Any notebook will work, but if you can, try to encourage them to use a Grid book.

You are welcome to freely print these cards for your family but please respect our creative copyright and link back to the original file on our web page to share with others. Thanks, Jo

Find me on Instagram @jo_mathinnature and Nature Study Australia

Note for week 11

To complete this week's challenge, your children will need to have a set of tangram pieces. If you don't already have a set you can make your own using the template below. I recommend printing on card stock or gluing onto backing card for stability.
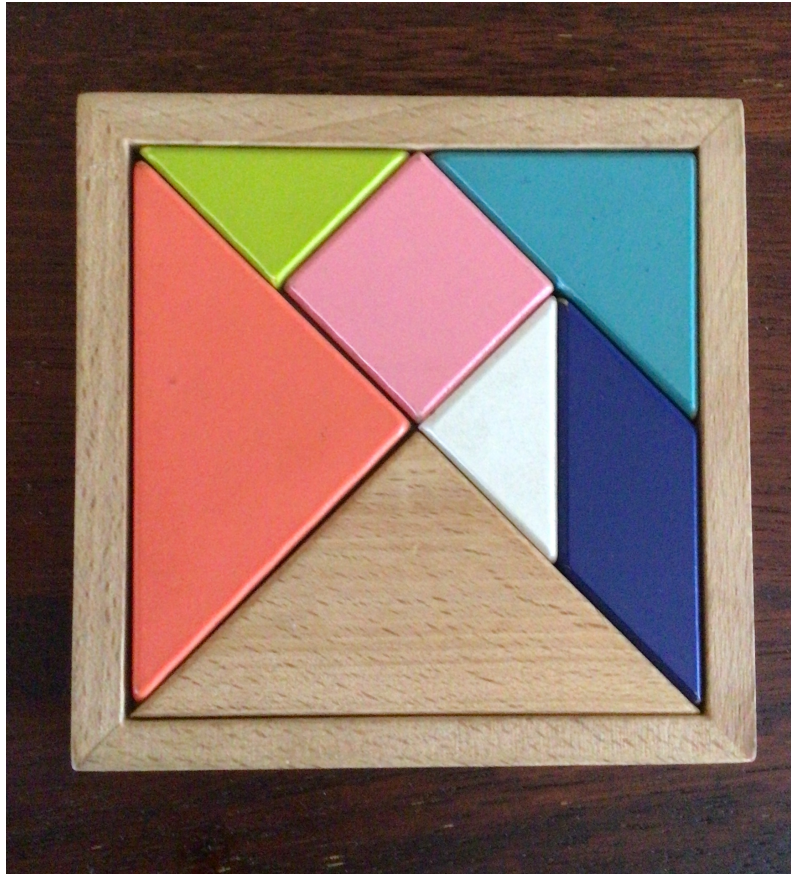
Tangram

Definition:

A traditional Chinese puzzle made of a square divided into seven pieces (one parallelogram, one square and five triangles)

1. How many triangles can you see?

2. Use a set of tangram pieces to make a square.

3. What other shapes can you find?

Tangram

Definition:

A traditional Chinese puzzle made of a square divided into seven pieces (one parallelogram, one square and five triangles)

1. Can you make this Praying Mantis with a set of tangrams?

2. Now try to remake the square with the pieces.

3. What shapes can you find?

4. Draw the shapes in your journal and label them.

5. Find some more tangram puzzles to solve.

Praying Mantis

Tangram

Definition:

A traditional Chinese puzzle made of a square divided into seven pieces (one parallelogram, one square and five triangles)

1. What does this picture make you think about?

2. Do you think you can create your own tangram picture? Try re-arranging the pieces and draw your puzzle in your journal.

3. Ask someone from your family to solve your puzzle.

Giant Mushroom

Tangram

Definition:

A traditional Chinese puzzle made of a square divided into seven pieces (one parallelogram, one square and five triangles)

1. Try this scorpion puzzle, can you solve it?

2. Find more puzzles to solve or create your own.

3. Draw some in your journal.

4. Research the history of the tangram. Tell someone what you discover.

SCORPION