

# An Ancient Puzzle

Read each source of information. Then complete the activities on pages 49–51.

## Source 1

Eddie was playing with wooden puzzle pieces. He was using the pieces to form a picture. He formed a picture of a rabbit.

Kim asked, “What game is that? What are you playing?”

Eddie said, “This is called a tangram. It is an old game. Tangrams have been around for a long time.”

“Can you use the pieces to make something other than a rabbit?”

Eddie nodded, “Yes. You can make thousands of things!”

“With just those few pieces?” Kim asked, “Can you make a cat?”

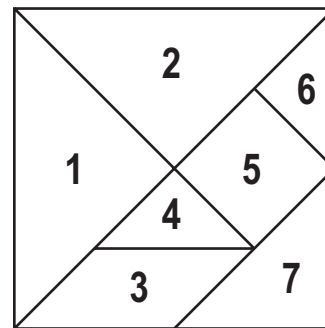
## Source 2

**ancient**

having been around for a very long time; very old

## Source 3

### The Seven Pieces of the Tangram

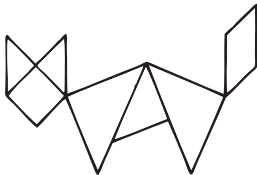


Each piece is called a **tan**.

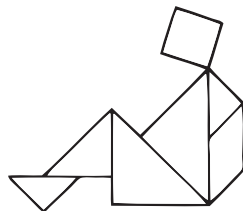
## Source 4

A tangram is a puzzle. It is made up of seven pieces. The pieces fit together to make one large square. They can also be used to form many other shapes. In fact, over 6,500 shapes can be made from just these seven pieces.

**Some are in the shapes of animals.**



**Some are in the shapes of people.**



**Some are in the shapes of objects.**



Tangrams were first used in China hundreds of years ago. The Chinese word for *tangram* means “seven boards of skill.”

# An Ancient Puzzle *(cont.)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 1:** Read each idea. Which source gives you this information? Fill in the correct bubble for each source. (Note: More than one bubble may be filled in for each idea.)

Information	Sources →	1	2	3	4
1. Tangrams have been around a long time.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Tangrams are made up of seven pieces.		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Each piece of a tangram is called a <i>tan</i> .		<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Part 2:** Fill in the bubble next to the best answer to each question.

4. Of the seven tans, how many are triangles?

(A) 3

(C) 5

(B) 4

(D) 6

5. Of the numbered triangles in Source 3, which two are the same size and shape?

(A) 1 and 7

(C) 2 and 4

(B) 6 and 7

(D) 4 and 6

6. Find shape #3 in Source 3. That shape is used to make which part of the cat picture in Source 4?

(A) tail

(C) head

(B) body

(D) ear

**Part 3:** Search Source 4 of “An Ancient Puzzle” to find one example of the following:

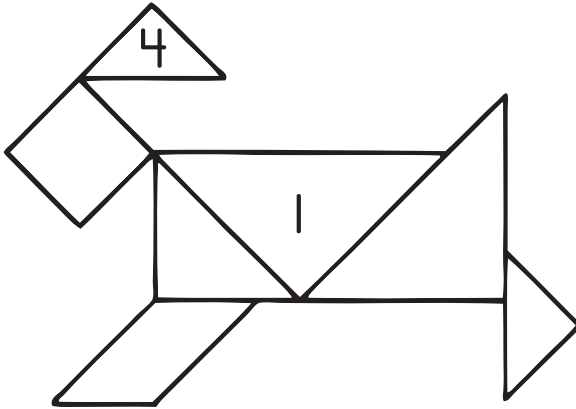
7. the name of a country \_\_\_\_\_

# An Ancient Puzzle *(cont.)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 4:** Look at each shape. Tell what it is. Tell if it is a **person**, **animal**, or **object**. Then write in the shape numbers from Source 3. Some numbers have been written for you.

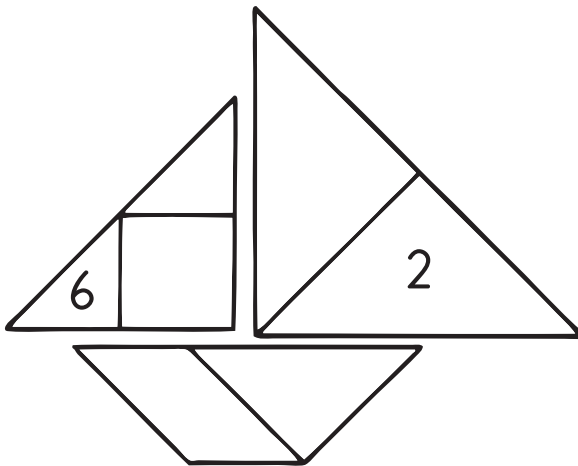
8. A.



What is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Is it a person,  
animal, or object? \_\_\_\_\_

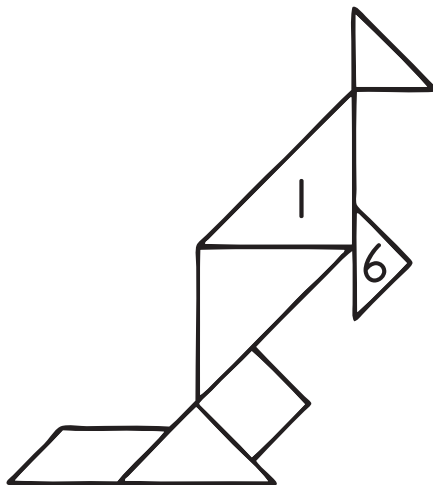
B.



What is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Is it a person,  
animal, or object? \_\_\_\_\_

C.



What is it? \_\_\_\_\_

Is it a person,  
animal, or object? \_\_\_\_\_

# An Ancient Puzzle *(cont.)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 5:** Use the sources to answer these questions.

- 9.** Make Source 1 longer. Add a few more lines. Have Eddie answer Kim’s question. Have Kim ask another question about tangrams. Have Eddie answer that question, too.

Kim asked, “Can you make a cat?”

Eddie answered, “\_\_\_\_\_.”

Then Kim asked, “\_\_\_\_\_?”

Eddie said, “\_\_\_\_\_.”

- 10.** Think of an animal or object that you would like to use a tangram to make. Choose one that isn’t shown in this unit.

Write the name of the animal or object here: \_\_\_\_\_

Now try to make it. Use only the “seven boards of skill.”

# Answer Key *(cont.)*

## Part 3

7. clinging

## Part 4

8. Students should circle "snail." In Source 3, we learn that the snail is the world's slowest animal on land. Therefore, a unit titled "The Fastest and the Slowest" should probably be about cheetahs and snails.
9. Accept appropriate responses. Students can give many differences between the two animals (speed, habitats, diet, etc.). Cheetahs and sloths are similar in that they are both perfectly suited for their habitats. Also, each have special claws that are useful for their types of living.
10. Accept appropriate responses.

## Unit 11. An Ancient Puzzle (page 48)

### Part 1

1. Sources 1 and 4
2. Sources 3 and 4
3. Source 3

### Part 2

4. C
5. D
6. A

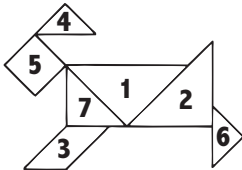
### Part 3

7. China

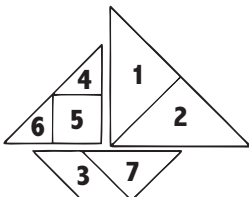
### Part 4

8. Shape numbers may vary slightly.

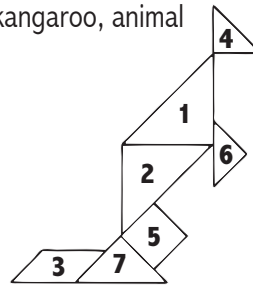
A. dog, animal



B. sailboat, object



C. kangaroo, animal



### Part 5

9. Accept appropriate responses.
10. Accept appropriate attempts to form an object or animal from the seven pieces of the tangram.

## Unit 12. Getting Enough Sleep (page 52)

### Part 1

1. >
2. =
3. <

### Part 2

4. B
5. A
6. B

### Part 3

7. quieter

### Part 4

8. Grace slept 16 total hours. According to the graph in Source 1, this is the amount a newborn baby should be getting.
9. Students should circle the choice, "We need more sleep when we are younger." Accept appropriate responses as to why this may be true.
10. Accept appropriate responses.

## Unit 13. The Baker's Dozen (page 56)

### Part 1

1. Source 1
2. Source 3
3. Source 1

### Part 2

4. C
5. B
6. A