

**Bringing Mathematics Home 1**

# Fraction Activities with Tangrams

**In your day-to-day experiences**

- A) This week, look for ways you see and use fractions, decimals, percents. Write your observations down or cut out examples (from magazines, newspapers, etc.). You will share these with us at our next class meeting and add to the class chart.
- B) Ask your children where they use fractions, decimals and percent in their lives. What examples of their uses can they think of? Write these down and share them at the next class.

**With your grades K-3 children:**

- A) Take a set of Tangrams and Pattern Sheets home. Before showing your K-3 child the Pattern Sheets, ask your child to make as many shapes/designs as he/she can using the pieces. Try to make a sailboat, a house, a rabbit or any other design.
- B) Show your child the Tangram Pattern Sheets. Ask him/her to fill in the shapes using the Tangrams. Does your child solve this kind of problem in the same way that you did?

**With your grades 4-8 children:**

- A) Take a set of Tangrams and Pattern Sheets home. Ask your grade 4-8 child to fill in the shapes using the Tangrams. Does your child solve this kind of problem in the same way that you did?
- B) Give your child the same problem we did in class. "What is the value of each piece if the entire set is worth \$8.00 (or \$12.00, or \$1.60, or \$1.00)." Ask your child to explain his/her thinking.

**With your grades 9-12 children:**

- A) Take a set of Tangrams and Pattern Sheets home. Ask your grade 9-12 child to fill in the shapes using the Tangrams. Does your child solve this kind of problem in the same way that you did?
- B) Ask your child to estimate the percent each of the pieces is of the whole set. Ask your child to explain how he/she is making the estimates. Ask him/her to how he/she would go about finding out exactly what percent each piece is of the whole set. (Your child does not need to actually find the exact percentages.)