

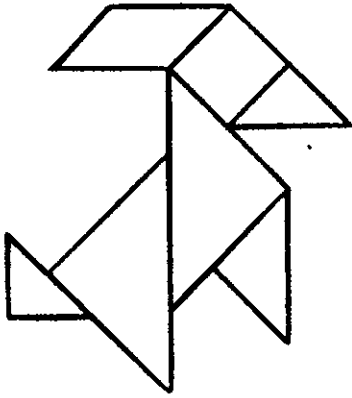
**Tangrams** are ancient Chinese puzzles that are still used today by adults as well as children. The story of the tangram is over 4000 years old. It is said that a poor, Chinese scholar named Tan was on his way to deliver a square ceramic tile to his emperor. On the way it dropped and broke into seven pieces. While trying to reassemble the square, the scholar discovered other fascinating shapes and patterns.

A tangram begins with a **square**, which is then cut into **seven** standard pieces. Each piece is called a **tan**. In creating a picture, all seven tans must be used; they must touch but none may overlap.

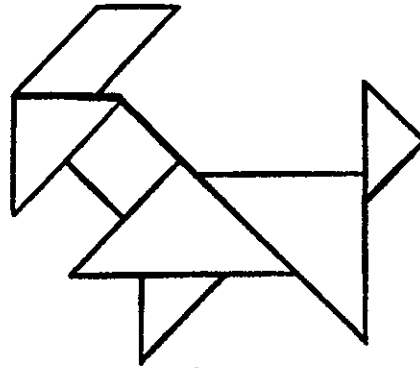
When tangrams are used in storytelling, the storyteller arranges the tans to show the shape of a character in the tale. As new characters or story elements are introduced, the puzzle pieces are rearranged to represent the new character or new element.

The fox fairies in **Grandfather Tang's Story**, by **Ann Tompert**, are an integral part of Chinese folklore. They are believed to be endowed with supernatural powers of transformation. Fox fairies are said to live for eight hundred to a thousand years.

# THE TANGRAM ZOO



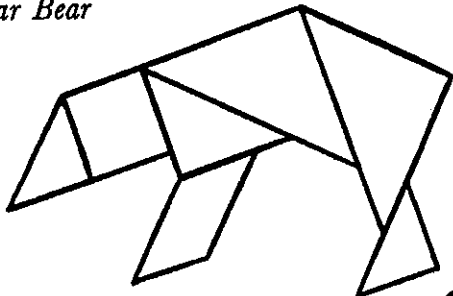
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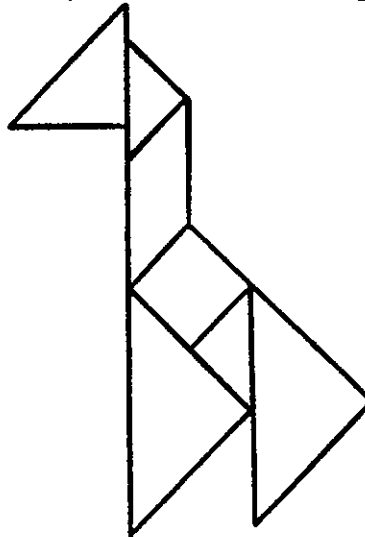
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GOATS

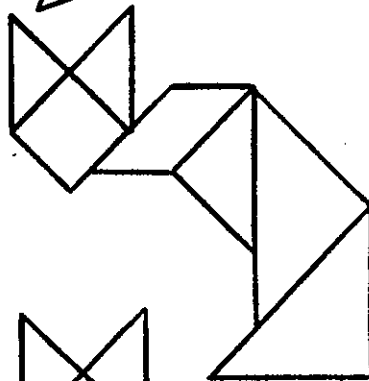
*Polar Bear*



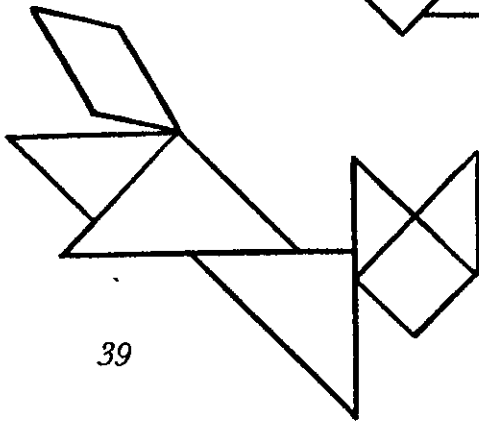
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38 Giraffe

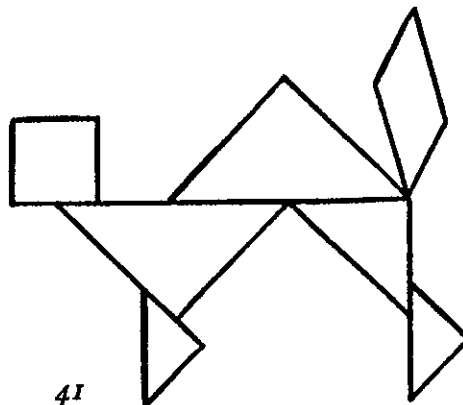


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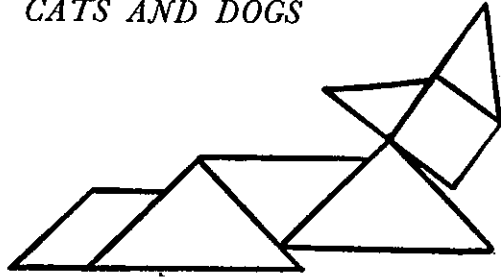
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CATS

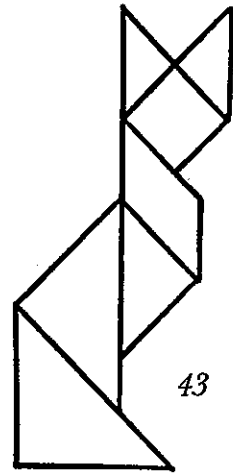


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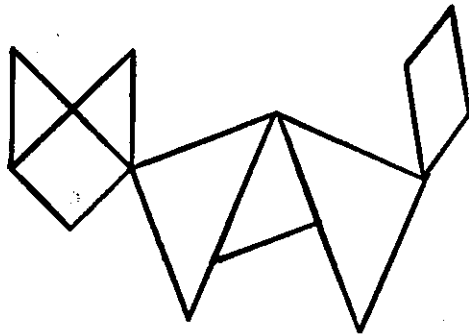
CATS AND DOGS



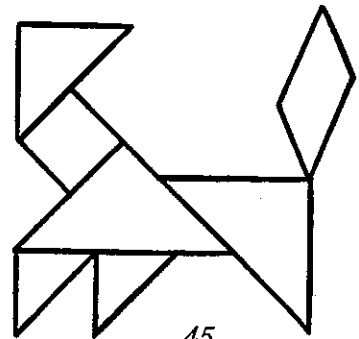
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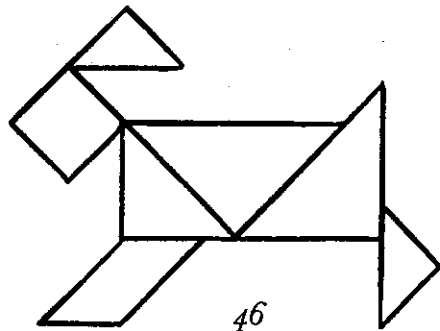
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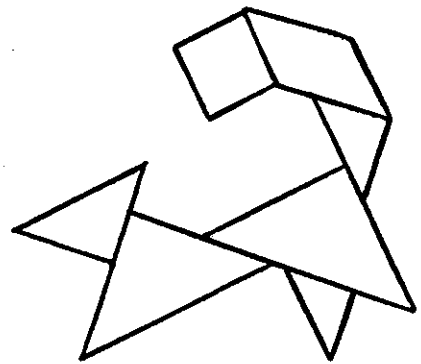
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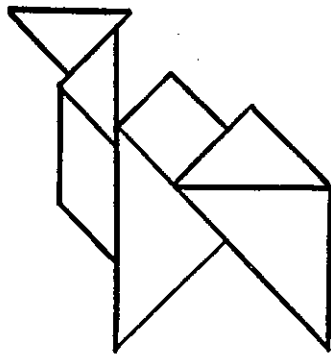
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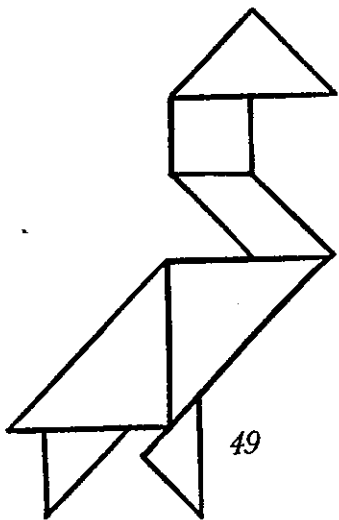


48 Squirrel

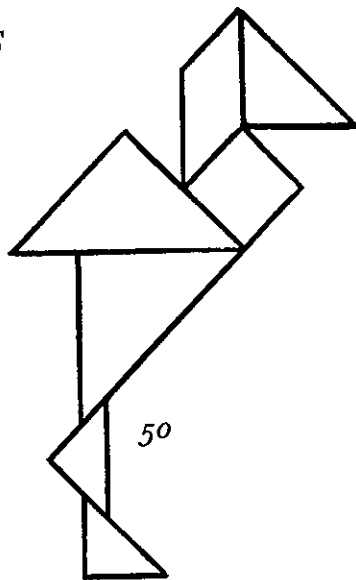


47 Camel

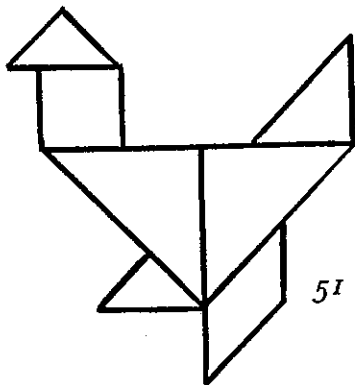
BIRDS



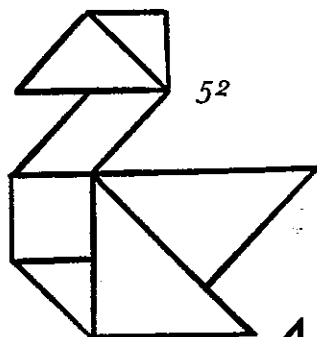
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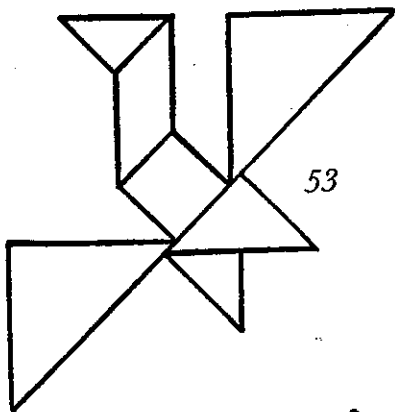
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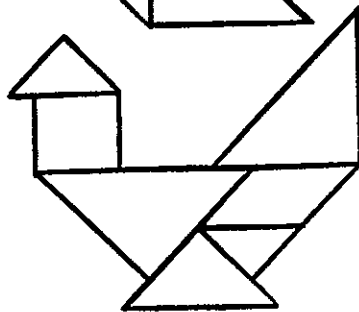
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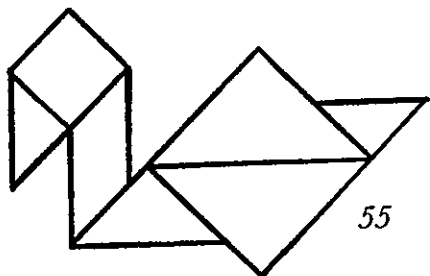
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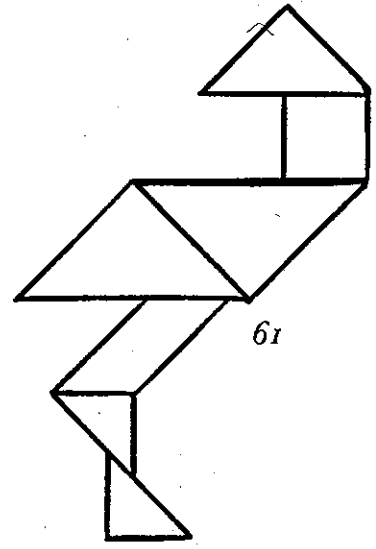
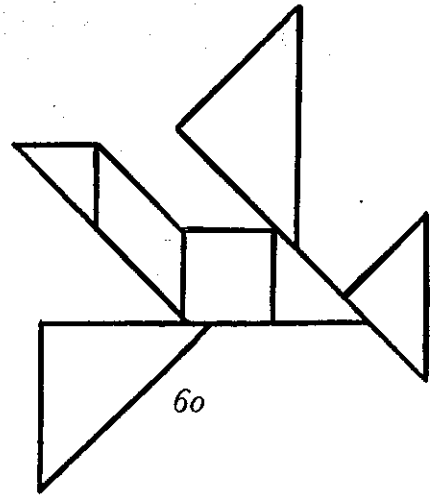
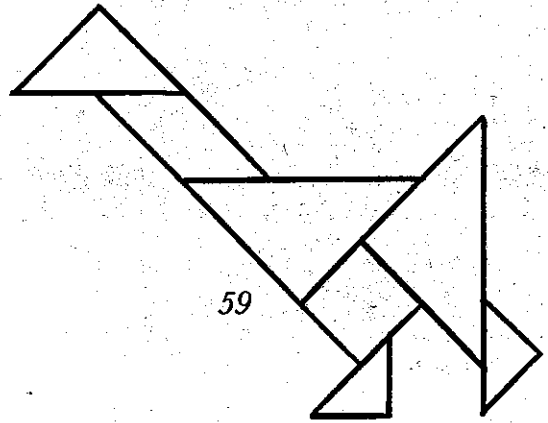
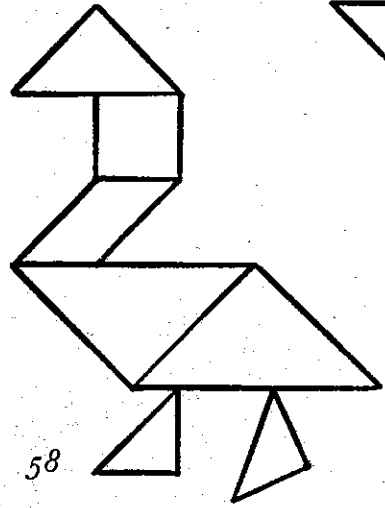
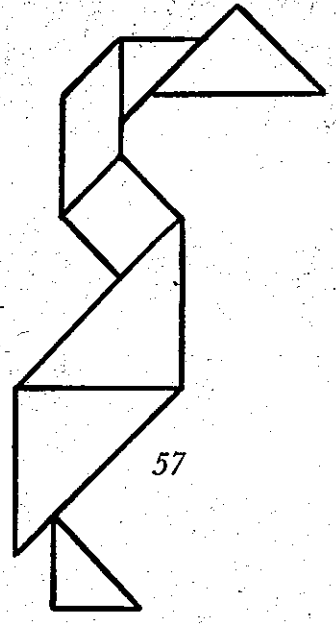
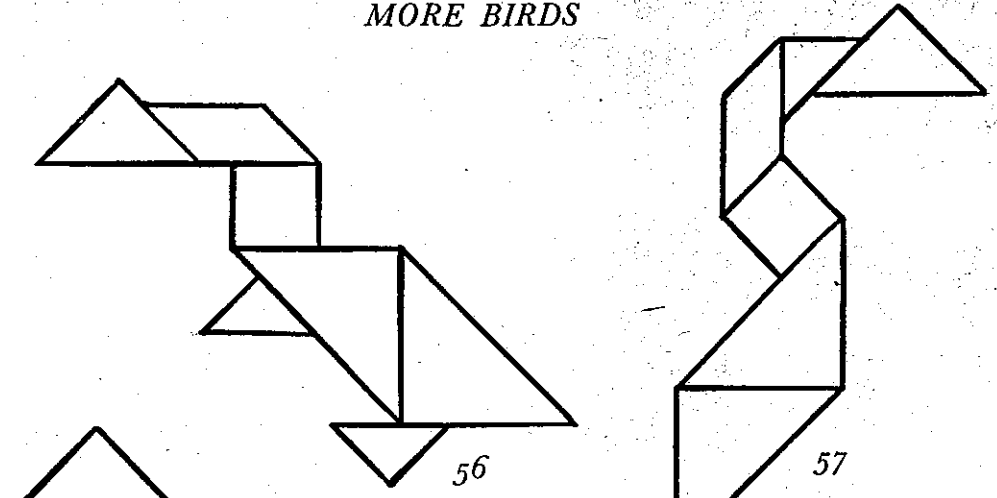


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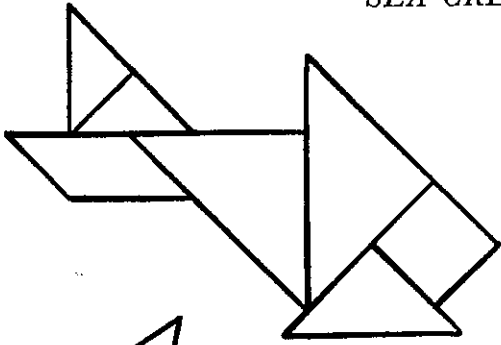


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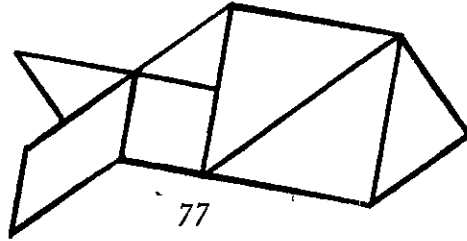
MORE BIRDS



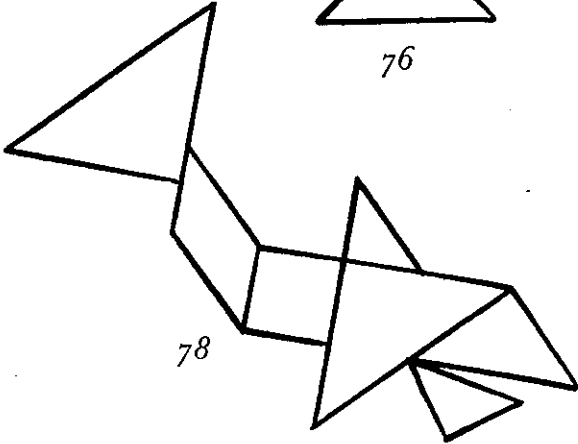
SEA CREATURES



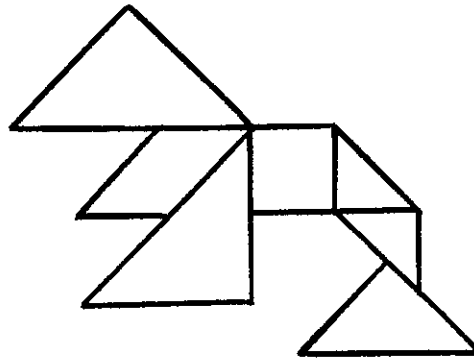
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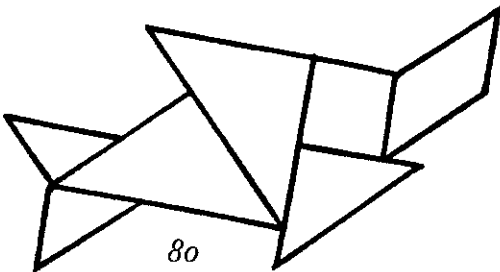
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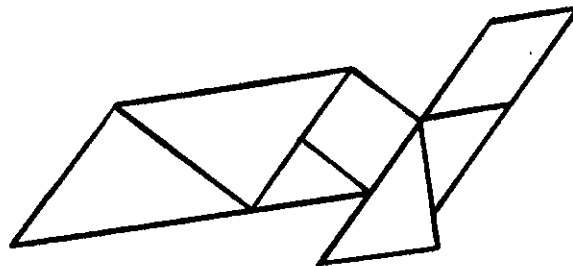
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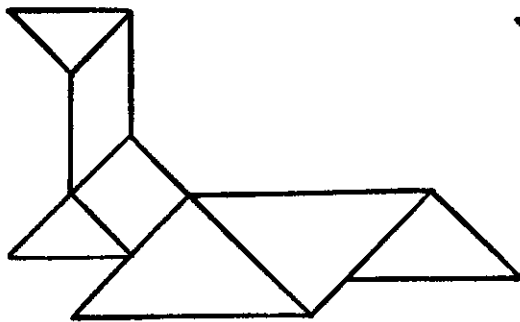
79 Lobster



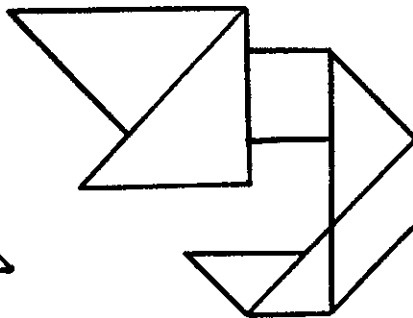
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81 Turtle



82 Seal



83 Shrimp