

# RAINBOW™ PENTOMINOES

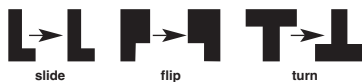
*Rainbow Pentominoes* (LER 286-6) have been specially scored to show the five congruent squares that form each piece. This special scoring helps children visualize area and perimeter easily, and promotes greater understanding as children develop spatial skills.

Each pentomino piece resembles a letter of the alphabet. As you direct students in activities, refer to the pieces using their letter names.



## A Slide, A Flip, A Turn

Choose three pentomino pieces and trace around them on a transparency to indicate a slide, a flip and a turn, as shown.



## Symmetry

Trace a pentomino piece on a transparency, and display it on the overhead. Ask a volunteer to place the matching piece on the outline, then flip it over and see if it fits back on its outline. Symmetrical pieces will fit back on their outlines after they have been flipped. Continue this process with other pentomino pieces. Have students sort their pieces into sets to show which pieces have symmetry.

## Puzzles

Fit pentomino pieces together to form puzzle shapes, and trace the outline of these shapes on transparencies.



(L,W,I)



(F,T)

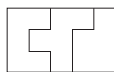


(F,P,V,Z)

In turn, volunteers can place pieces on the overhead to cover the puzzles.

## Congruent Shapes

Use pentomino pieces to draw a 3" x 5" rectangle on a transparency. Ask students to use their pieces to form other rectangles that are congruent. Children can record their work by tracing around the pieces in each rectangle they form, or by listing letter names for the pieces in each rectangle.



## Perimeter

The scoring of pentominoes makes them especially-suited for finding the perimeter of shapes. To introduce students to perimeter, prepare inch graph paper on a transparency. Place the transparency on the overhead, align a pentomino piece on the graph paper and trace with a marker. Ask students to estimate how many units make up the outside of the shape, then help them count to check. This measure is the perimeter.



LER 0286-6

# Rainbow™ Pentominoes

## Set of 6 Scored Pentomino Puzzles 6 Colors



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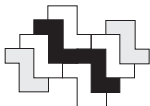


**WARNING:**  
CHOKING HAZARD - Small parts.  
Not for children under 3 years.

**ATENCIÓN:** PELIGRO DE ASFIXIA.  
Piezas pequeñas. No se recomienda para menores de 3 años.  
**ATTENTION:** RISQUE D'ÉTOUFFEMENT.  
Petites pièces. Interdit aux enfants en dessous de 3 ans.  
**ACHTUNG:** ERSTICKUNGSGEFÄHR.  
Kleine Teile. Nicht geeignet für Kinder unter 3 Jahren.



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**Tessellations**  
Flip, turn or slide pentomino pieces  
to make tessellations. Trace each  
shape as it is moved, then color it in  
for unique mosaic patterns.

**Area**  
Display a pentomino on the  
overhead. Explain to your students  
that area is the total number of square  
units covered by the pentomino  
pieces. Have them find the area. ( $A=5$   
sq. inches for each piece.) Make  
shapes with more than one piece, and  
find the resulting areas.