

Activity



Building Pentominoes

Objective: to show how knowing about translations, reflections, and rotations can be used to solve problems.

Using graph paper or square tiles, sketch or make pentominoes, figures in which five squares are combined so that each square shares an entire side with at least one other square. There are 12 different pentominoes.



pentomino



not a pentomino

Activity



The Nets of an Open Cube

Objective: to explore spatial visualization in three dimensions.

Some pentominoes will fold up to form a box without a top—an open cube. Pentominoes that fold up to form an open cube are also called nets. A net is a two-dimensional figure that folds up to form a three-dimensional structure. Identify those pentominoes that are nets of an open cube.