

LAURA PURDIE SALAS

Minnesota author of
140+ children's books

Thinking About Shapes with *Line Leads the Way*

- As you read *Line Leads the Way* aloud, students hold up matching shapes/cards when a shape character speaks or is named.
- Find matching shape objects at home or in class to act out the story.
- Discuss how a shape's attributes affect its character in the book.
- Write about shapes.
 - Write a poem about a shape you love.
 - What would a circle's favorite day look like?
 - What could a triangle and rectangle argue about?
 - Write a diary entry for a diamond.
- Do the My Favorite Shapes activity sheet, color the shapes coloring page, and use other downloadables and resources from <https://laurasalas.com/line>.
- Build a reading set: Besides mine & Christine's & Kerry's books, check out *Shape Search* (Stewart), *Round* (Sidman), *Triangle* (Barnett), *Tangled* (Miranda), and *Kitty and Cat: Bent Out of Shape* (Hokkanen).

Contact Me



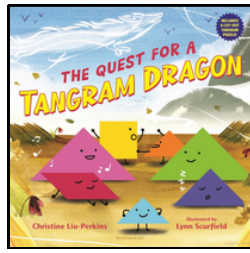
@LauraPSalas



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<https://laurasalas.com> (+ newsletter for educators)



CHRISTINE LIU-PERKINS

Colorado author and winner
of the 2025 Mathical
Book Prize for K-2

Cross-Curricular Connections with *The Quest for a Tangram Dragon*

- **Mathematics:** Create your own tangram formations using 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, or all 7 tans.
- **Literacy:** What quest would you like to pursue? Write a story or poem about that quest, using your tangrams as characters.
- **Art:** Turn your tangrams into art to illustrate your story.
- **Social Studies:** Learn about Chinese culture. (Tangrams are a Chinese invention, "Ni hao!" means "hello" in Mandarin, and the animals have symbolic meanings.)
- **SEL:** Teamwork, problem-solving, logical thinking, concentration, perseverance, growth mindset

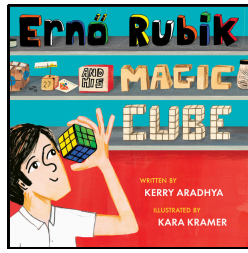
Links to Resources

- Bloomsbury USA activity kit (animal riddles, writing activity, tangram template)
https://www.bloomsbury.com/media/vatnsun2/tangram-dragon_activity-kit_final.pdf
- Author interview, resources, and more on TeachingBooks.net
<https://school.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?tid=95812#>
- Instructions for folding & cutting out a set of tans
<https://www.beyondthechalkboard.org/assets/Making-a-Tangram-Set-1.pdf>



<https://ChristineLiuPerkins.com>

Contact Me



KERRY ARADHYA

California author and 2025
Mathical Book Prize
honoree for K-2

Calculate and Create with *Erno Rubik and His Magic Cube*

- Use cubes to practice arithmetic; area & volume; and fractions, ratios, & proportions.
- Research and write about an inventor or invention that makes you curious.
- What is your passion? Write a story or poem about it.
- Pair with other biographies such as *The Five Sides of Marjorie Rice* (Alznauer), *Charles & Ray: Designers at Play* (Yang), *Mr. Pei's Perfect Shapes* (Leung), and *The Shape of the World* (Going).
- Learn to solve the Rubik's Cube!

Links to Resources

- **Peachtree Puzzle Pack** (math & literacy puzzles)
www.peachtreebooks.com/Activity_Event/ErnoRubikandHisMagicCubePuzzlePack.pdf
- **KidLit TV** (StoryMakers episode)
www.kidlit.tv/2024/06/storymakers-with-kerry-aradhya-erno-rubik-and-his-magic-cube/
- **LitLinks** (shape activity on the creative process)
www.patriciamnewman.com/litlinks-how-playing-with-existing-ideas-might-lead-to-new-ones/

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<https://kerryaradhya.com> (+ monthly newsletter)