

What people say about Zome...

Educators

“This is the best thing to hit mathematics education for many years.”

*Bob Fair, Mathematics Coordinator,
Cherry Creek School District, Colorado*

“In 25 years of teaching, Zome was a Peak Experience! It had tremendous impact.”

Kathy Zentmyer, Carbondale Middle School

“Applause! This is what we hear after a quick demo of Zome to our science and math peers... When you can get the interest of teachers – from kindergarten through high school, from simple geometry to fractals, in the same room at the same time – then you have a heck of a teaching tool!”

Augustine Frkuska, San Antonio Independent School District

“Some kids have amazing hidden talents just waiting to be discovered. Zome brings their gifts to the forefront and really boosts self-esteem.”

Thom Adorney, 4th Grade teacher, Denver, Colorado

“The minute I put it in their hands they are busy creating. They’re using it for discovery and when they create something, you can assign a tangible name or mathematical principle to it. They don’t even know they’re learning; as a teacher, that’s exciting.”

Elaine Mendelow, on her students, Cinnaminson, New Jersey

“Zometool provides hands-on learning opportunities and seems to be particularly well suited for beginning students who are carrying over some "math phobia" from high school. Our advanced students build models with Zometool to test conjectures. We have already used Zome with our discrete mathematics classes and mathematics majors are frequently spotted constructing structures during class breaks in the lounge.”

Colorado College, Mathematics Dept.

“Comments given by our Irish Elementary students included: 'That really fried my brain,' 'where can I get these,' and 'I know what I would change next time.’”

P. Diane Williams, Fort Collins, CO

“I have been involved in mathematics education for 30 years, as a teacher and curriculum developer. In that time, I have written 15 books involving manipulatives in grades K through 12. In addition to developing countless lessons, puzzles, and labs using pentominoes, tangrams, pattern blocks, geoboards, and so on, I created some math manipulatives myself (the algebra Lab Gear, the Circle-Trig Geoboard). I can say without hesitation that of all the materials available to math teachers, none come close to the Zome System in mathematical depth, esthetic satisfaction, and popularity among students.”

Henri Picciotto, Urban School of San Francisco

“Reflecting on my twenty-eight year career as an educator, Zome continues to change my way of thinking about learning and exploring mathematical ideas and investigations. It is the only math manipulative that gives a way to discover mathematics at such a comprehensive depth of understanding. With Zome, the art of teaching and learning become one. As students discover aspects of geometry, number, algebra, science and art, it is the deeper level of abstract mathematics that surfaces and proves that ALL people can learn mathematics which was once kept in seclusion for only a choice few. Zome is a constant reminder that math no longer need be a filter to keep people out of such an important subject, but a conduit to encourage all kinds of thinking in all kinds of learning environments.

Zome reflects thinking at its best. It promotes opportunities for learning in a new way to generalize about mathematics and promotes the relationship between equations and real-world applications. By constructing individual understanding of concepts often looked at as too complex for most people, Zome opens the doors and windows of learning so concepts are explored which leads to conceptual understanding. With conceptual understanding, the abstract is made real in the eyes of the learner.

A connection is made between math topics and the exploration leads to the integration of science, art, number sense, spatial visualization, and much, much more. With the Zome System of learning, people of all ages gain confidence to become competent in problem solving and thinking mathematically.”

Ken Berry, Educator

“Zome is a great tool for visualizing the shape and structure of the solids. The striking beauty of the finished models is a sure way to generate interest. A big attraction of Zome is the book Zome Geometry. It is a real masterpiece that goes from the most elementary to some really deep concepts.”

*Helmer Aslaksen, Department of Mathematics,
National University of Singapore*

“Zome System was enjoyed by many different ages and stages of children at the Holiday Food and Gift Convention. It was a wonderful tool that helped imaginations fly freely.”

Kathy Grace, Director-Thomas Learning Centers

“As I began to teach mathematics, I was drawn to using visual models and computer imagery to help my students in the classroom. About ten years ago, I was introduced to Zometool while attending a joint meeting of the AMS (American Mathematical Society) and the MAA (Mathematical Association of America). As I began to develop new courses in "visual mathematics", increasingly I have found new uses for Zome models in class and as motivation for student projects. I have used Zome in minicourses at the MAA Mathfests in 1999 in Providence, RI, in 2000 at UCLA in Los Angeles, CA and in numerous other workshops and presentations from Iceland to India. The use of Zome models has never failed to shed light on the mathematical idea at hand and has often proved to be the key to understanding.

Currently, I am a member of the mathematics faculty at Zayed University in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates where I continue to experiment with Zome. The new green lines and blue-green lines have proved valuable in several group theory and topological models. In a recent student workshop on polyhedra, one student who majors in studio art was intrigued by the possibilities of using Zome purely as an artistic medium for sculpture. I am finding that there are new discoveries to be made with Zome all the time.”

Ray Tennant, Ph.D.

Kids

“I really love the Zome kit! My math teacher, Z-Man, has a kit and it is sooo cool! He uses it in geometry. It’s really fun to use.”

Amanda M., age 13, Asheville, NC

“I really love Zome! I was very excited when I got my Creator Kit for Christmas. It is just what I wanted! My two favorite things to build are a very large spaceship that I can go inside and a collection of connected models that I pretend is a quantum computer.”

Kiel S., age 7, Canada

“I got my first Zome set when I was 13. Now that I’m 16 and learning more advanced geometry, it has opened another world of building with Zome. I was so excited I had to call and tell you.”

Mark, Waldorf School student, Denver, Colorado

“Dad...this is more than a toy.”

*Heard from an awestruck 5 year old holding his first Zome kit
in the Zometool showroom, Denver, Colorado*

Adults

“You can forget the computer when our 6-year old grandson visits us; the first thing he gets out is the Zome kit. It has to be one of the best construction toys around. It also fascinates our son, a consultant psychiatrist!”

Grandfather in Michigan

“I am a 'big kid' now who has enjoyed Lincoln Logs, Erector sets, and Lego all my life and had to purchase a sample kit (Adventurer Kit) to play with and see what it was like. I had so much fun with the Adventurer Kit I decided to buy the biggest one you have. It's just a play thing for me, but everyone who comes into my house sees it, is fascinated by it and has to play with it. I'm afraid to tell them they're probably learning something while they play. Thanks for such an innovative 'toy.' I hope my niece who just turned 8 gets as much enjoyment out of her Christmas present as I do!”

Becky Allary, Zome System user

“I am fascinated with polyhedra and have been trying to find some kind of construction kit for building them. It has been frustrating to discover that every other toy construction kit I've looked at has been restricted to angles of 45 degrees and 90 degrees!”

Ralph Dratman, Zome System user

“I have been interested in polyhedra for a while and find building polyhedrons a fascinating and stimulating activity. I've previously used ping-pong balls glued together to build polyhedra, but I like the modularity of Zome System. I originally intended to give the kit as a gift, but I'm afraid I may just keep it for myself!!”

John Hebert, Zome System user

Professionals

“Zome considerably simplifies the procedure of construction and unifies the study of space frame structures into one coherent system, of great educational value in the teaching of solid geometry, science, art, engineering and architecture.”

H.S.M. Coxeter, mathematician

“You don't have to be a rocket scientist to enjoy Zome. But we love it too!”

David Noever, NASA scientist

“Beautifully made -- the perfect construction kit for icosahedral quasicrystalline models, and for many structures of mathematical interest.”

Roger Penrose, Oxford University Mathematician

“I am building quite a large carbon molecule with Zome, and I have discovered something about carbon molecules. Who can I talk to in your company about this?”

Dr. G.V.C., Retired Physician, London, England

“My interest in geodesics dates back to when my hair was longer and my temper was shorter. I will probably just play with Zome, but I do have a project to replace an inflated roof at a local university with a space frame (about 70,000 square feet) so I might use Zome to show my client what a space frame looks like.”

Peter Saitta, AIA Principal, PSA Architects

“Useful in my studies of nuclear structure and quasicrystalline materials.”

- Linus Pauling, Nobel Laureate

“Zometool helps me make beautiful objects. I love it!”

John Conway, mathematician