

## 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.*

“I have been involved in mathematics education for 30 years, as a teacher and curriculum developer. In that time, I have developed countless lessons, puzzles, and labs and written 15 books involving manipulatives in grades K through 12. I can say without hesitation that of all the materials available to math teachers, none come close to Zome in mathematical depth, esthetic satisfaction, and popularity among students.”

*Henri Picciotto, Urban School of San Francisco*

This construction set has been a staple in my elementary gifted classroom for nearly two years. The students love the creativity and impressive structures they can build. I love the fact that the materials require that you put a subtle twist into your thinking in order to succeed. We have investigated the meaning and variations of tetrahedra, made bubbles that blow you away, explored the shadows of student constructions, and challenged one another to construction competitions. (Please don't tell my kids that they are learning!)

*Zome User*

“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. 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. Zome is a constant reminder that math is 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. 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 Zome, people of all ages gain confidence to become competent in problem solving & 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 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*

“WOW! We received Zome, and we're hooked! What a wonderful product ... It's fun, but the potential for increasing kids' understanding of physical concepts is tremendous. Thanks!”

*Amy Knox, Homeschooler, Georgia*

“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 and in numerous 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.*

## Parents and 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 psychiatrist!”

*Grandfather in Michigan*

"My son has played with Zometool for several years. They are still his favorite toy. He gets more upset when we take away his Zometool than when we take away his Xbox. Thanks for an awesome product!"

*David Cloninger, on his son*

We originally resisted the idea of acquiring Zome, because our household already had almost every other geometrical building toy, and it seemed as though getting yet another one would be excessive. Of course, it turned out that no other geometric building toy can do nearly what Zome can do, and my children have spent far more hours playing with this toy than any of our others.

*Grandfather in Michigan*

“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. I originally intended to give the kit as a gift, but I'm afraid I may just keep it for myself!!”

*John Hebert, Zome user*

“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. 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.'”

*Becky Allary, Zome 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 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*

“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*

My hopes for Zome is to help children become even smarter, so they can grow up to be leading mathematicians, teachers, architects, scientists and artists of the next generation, and make a real contribution to improving the health of our small planet. Zome advances the great tradition of learning tools that are fun, started by Friedrich Froebel and picked up by Lego. If you haven't experienced Zome yet, you're in for a real treat!

*Paul Hildebrandt, Zometool*