



This box includes the following:

1. This sheet of instructions

2. General information sheet (on reverse)

3. Puzzle Piece printed to full scale (below)

- labelled with top, bottom, right, and left. We suggest copying this puzzle piece as often as you need, so each person can have a chance to practice their artwork, or try different ideas. This practice puzzle piece will also help keep everyone's artwork oriented so none of the pieces will be upside down when you put The Community Puzzle™ together. Use the white side of the puzzle piece for the artwork. Encourage everyone to use the whole surface of their puzzle piece, including the "nibs" (the tabs that stick out the sides of each piece) This will help each piece flow into the next when The Community Puzzle™ is assembled.

4. Full Set Planning Diagram (on reverse) -

We thought you would like to see the full layout of your puzzle. This layout shows one possible configuration for 1 set of 48 pieces (including borders and corners). The puzzle can of course be turned either way. For larger projects (The biggest to date was over 16,000 pieces) just keep adding pieces to reach the desired size and then add borders and corners. If you use more than one set, you will end up with extra border and corner pieces. Just recycle them. One good plan is to make the border pieces all one colour, but if you want to include artwork on them, you will need to plan the correct orientation, including how many of each style of border pieces you need for your planned layout. Just trace around each style to create your own practice pages. Be sure to label the "top". Note that while all 4 corner pieces are alike, each corner is rotated differently, and that there are 2 styles of border. One has a nib on one long side, and the other has a pocket on one long side.

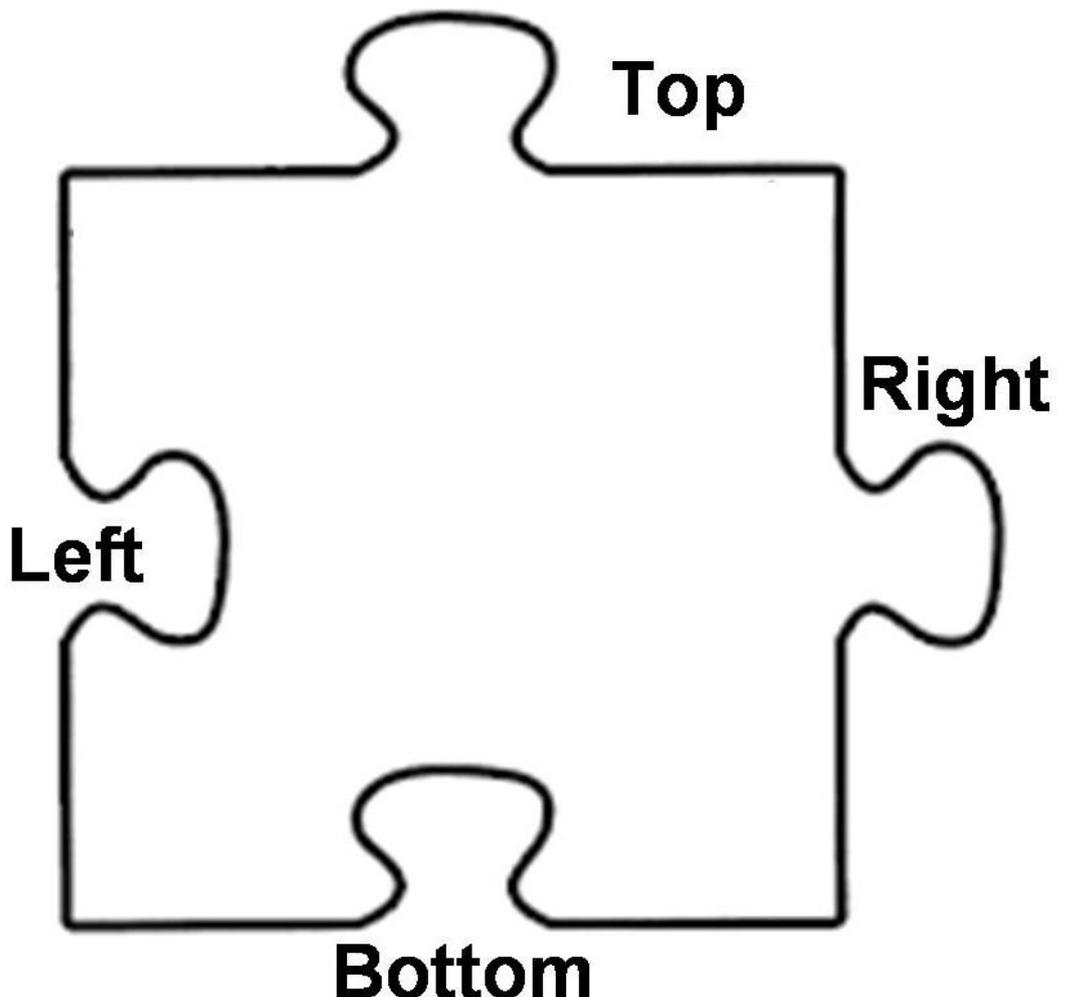
5. 48 Total puzzle pieces per set

24 large centre pieces, 4 corner pieces, 10 border pieces with a nib or tab on one long side and 10 border pieces with a hole or pocket on one long side. See the diagram on the reverse to see what each style of piece looks like and where it goes.

Preserving Your Completed Puzzle

Once completed, you may want to permanently display your Community Puzzle™. To hold the pieces together, turn the completed puzzle upside down, and coat the back with a quality white glue. Don't use too much, and try to keep the glue from leaking through the cracks to the face of the puzzle. While the glue is still wet, apply layers of newspaper, craft paper, or poster board, and let dry. Trim excess paper from edges as needed. Especially with larger puzzles you might want to actually mount your puzzle to a sheet of plywood.

To preserve the face you could coat it with a spray UV protectant available from an Art Supply Store. This will protect the surface, and cut down on fading. Follow the directions on the can. You can also use one of the commercial puzzle coating materials sold for regular jigsaw puzzles.





Proudly Display Your Community Puzzle

Think of it as a patchwork quilt for kids (of all ages). The Community Puzzle consists of large universal puzzle pieces that go together in any order. Each person decorates their own puzzle piece in their own style, usually, but not always utilising a common theme - suggestions below. Any size group can participate, all you need to do is get enough pieces (they come in sets of 48 pieces including the borders and corners) Our largest so far was over 16,000 pieces, but there is absolutely no limit. You just need a place to put it together - remember - the pieces fit anywhere so it's not hard to assemble.

General Suggestions

- Have several groups work together on a larger project such as all the classes in a school, all the dens in a cub pack, or all the classes in a church Sunday school.
- Have special related people add to the Community Puzzle - Other school staff, parents, community leaders, chaplains, etc.
- Celebrate a special birthday or event by having friends, relatives, or classmates decorate a puzzle piece about a special memory. Present the completed puzzle or have each individual mail their decorated piece to arrive on the person's special day.

Theme ideas for your Community Puzzle

Character Building: illustrate a positive trait or person you admire.

Nature: illustrate a plant or an animal in a particular habitat

Multi-Cultural: illustrate something about you, your family, or ethnic roots.

Social Studies: illustrate a country, -- products, leaders, important cities, etc.

Reading: illustrating a book you have read provides a visual measure of progress as the puzzle grows. Or have all the students illustrate a common book, story or poem.

Church School: illustrate a favourite bible verse, biblical story, part of a church building, religious holiday, etc.

Social Responsibility: illustrate recycling activities, environmental issues, how to treat others, etc.

Summer Camp: illustrate activities or accomplishments; add a piece for each merit badge completed or each goal reached.

Class Trip: illustrate lessons learned about the place you visited.

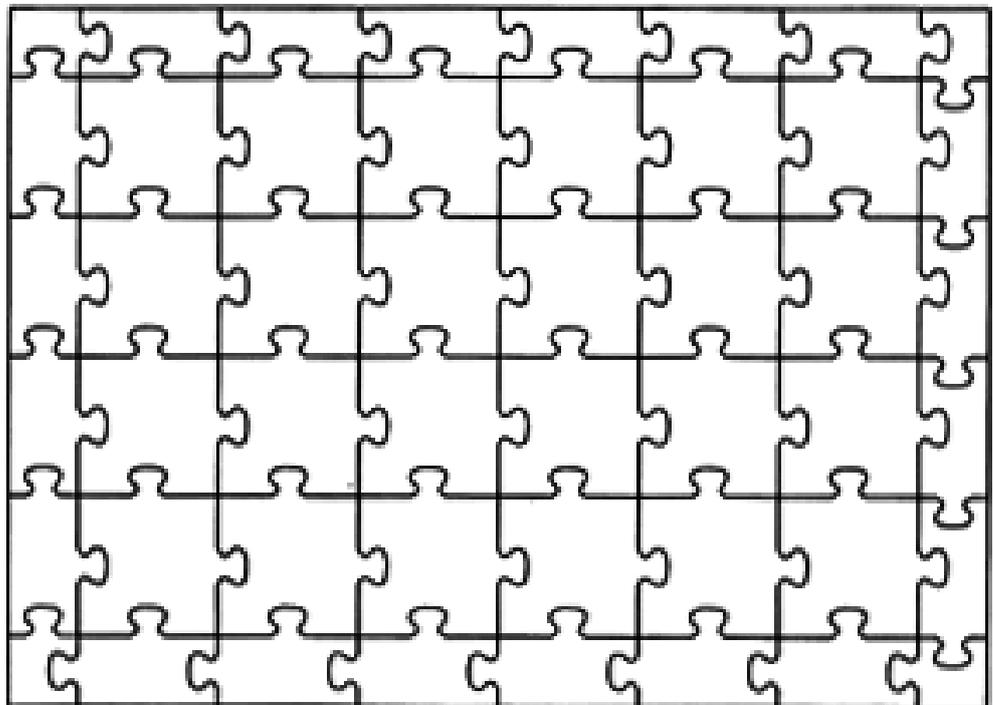
Gift for Special Visitors: illustrate elements you liked about their presentations

Clan collage: give a piece to each family member to create a family picture

Birthday parties, retirement parties, family reunions, block parties, holidays, staff development, senior citizens, community festivals or any occasional group of people gathering to have fun and learn.

Other ideas: bodies (hands, feet, faces), numbers, letters, colours, safety, sports, exercise, travel (cars, trucks, boats, etc.), places (cities, states, countries), jobs/professions, flowers, trees, insects, foods, weather, toys, clothes or just turn everyone loose to create what you want.

Fund Raising with The Community Puzzle: Sell each puzzle piece for a set price. (e.g. £5 or any other set price) Low price points let larger segments of the community contribute. Each contributor decorates according to the theme and adds to The Community Puzzle. Publicly display the puzzle in the school foyer, a library, at the local post office, shopping centre or other public space. The growing puzzle provides an automatic measurement of the progress of the fundraiser. The contribution might include a raffle ticket for a draw to determine who receives The Community Puzzle when it is completed! The largest fundraiser puzzle we know of is in USA, with the Denver Race for the Cure for breast cancer. They sold over 15,000 puzzle pieces in 2006!



Completed puzzle is 20" x 28"

Puzzle pieces are interchangeable and fit together in any order.

Just add more pieces for larger projects