

Pieces of the Puzzle

Length of Time – 10 minutes

Materials Required – Jigsaw Puzzles

Overview

A quick collaborative activity, using jigsaw puzzles, to help develop teamwork within groups

Goals

- To develop teamwork
- To energize the group
- To emphasize the importance of communication

Direction for Activities

- Split group into two teams of no more than 10 people each
- Invite each team to gather around their specific puzzle pieces
- Allow one team to use the picture on the box or other means of instruction
- Do not allow the other team to speak to one another and do not allow them to use any instructions
- Leave the group to solve the puzzle themselves

When the task is complete, discuss the following questions:

- What do the pieces represent?
- Who could the observers/non-participants be representing?
- Did the lack of instructions slow down the process?
- What signs of collaboration did you see?
- Do the people who know how, usually get asked to help?
- Could a group be over-managed or under-managed?
- Were all the pieces there?
- What else did you notice or learn?