



## Team Builders

# Co-operative jigsaws

- Individual
- Pairs
- Small group
- Whole group

**Uses:** For teams to work together without verbal communication or gestures.  
For teams to recognise each others' needs.

**Resources:** Various jigsaws – enough for one per participant.

**Time:** 10-15 minutes.

### What to do:

1. You need to prepare jigsaw in advance. Either get hold of some simple (12-20 piece jigsaws. You will need one for each participant), or get some old greetings cards and make your own, cutting each one into random shapes. It's best to vary the cutting method for each card e.g. wavy cuts, square cuts, diagonal etc.
2. Now take four of the prepared jigsaws and mix up the pieces.
3. Divide the mixed pieces between four envelopes.
4. You are now ready for teams of four to undertake the challenge.
5. Explain to the teams that they each have an envelope containing jigsaw pieces. The challenge is to complete a jigsaw each BUT they are not allowed to talk or communicate with gestures. They are only allowed to GIVE PIECES AWAY and not take them from other people. Ask the group to concentrate on working as a team to complete the challenge.
6. Allow time for them to put the jigsaws together.
7. At the end ask the participants to reflect on how they worked together; what was difficult about the challenge etc.

### Make it different:

- Use more difficult jigsaws.
- Use the same idea with curriculum materials cut up.

### Points to make:

- Encourage group reflection on how completing a task provides valuable learning.
- How difficult was it not to take what you needed?
- Is an important part of teamwork noticing what the needs of others are?