



Short Activity
Ages 3–5
20–30 minutes

Puzzled: Story and Puzzles

Description

Participants will listen to a story (optional) and use puzzle templates to complete or create a 9- or 16-piece jigsaw puzzle.

Number of participants

For any number of participants

Space considerations

Indoor space where participants can be seated for an activity

Competencies

- Eye-hand coordination
- Visual-spatial skills
- Problem solving
- Pattern recognition
- Fine motor skills

Materials

- Templates
- Scissors
- Small paper or plastic bags to keep pieces in
- Pompoms or beads (optional)
- Glue (optional)
- Cardstock or cardboard (optional)
- Crayons (optional)
- Laptop/projector screen (optional)

Preparation

- Print and paste puzzle sheets onto cardstock or cardboard (optional).

- Print a copy of the images (without puzzle lines) for participants to see or display them on a screen/projector.

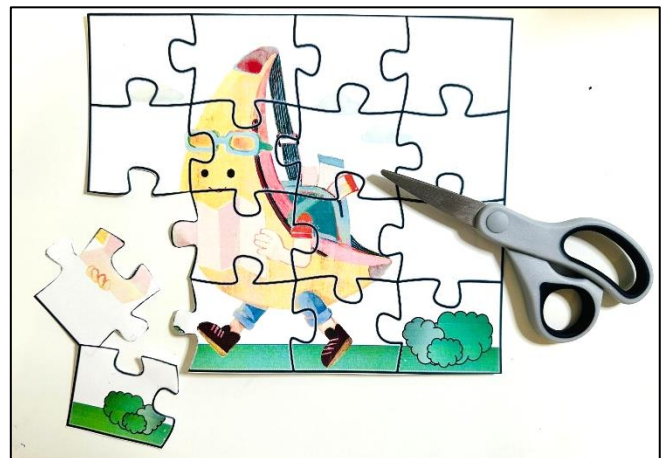
Implementation

- (Optional) Share the story **Lia & Luís: Puzzled!** by Ana Crespo and Giovana Medeiros with participants.
- Introduce puzzle shapes: sharp edges, curves and round edges, etc.
- Talk about what we might look at when solving a puzzle: matching colours, parts of images on various pieces. Note that small details are important!

Notice the little edge of the map
on this puzzle piece



- Distribute selected puzzle templates and cut them out. Parents and caregivers may help with this part.
- Drop cut pieces into paper or plastic bag and shake them up.
- Dump pieces back out and try to put the puzzle back together.



To extend or enhance this activity, encourage participants to design their own puzzle by drawing their own image on a blank puzzle template.

Accessibility considerations

- Use the 9-piece blank puzzle template or scale templates up as needed.

- Glue small pompoms or beads to the centre of puzzle pieces to create a knob for easier handling.
- Consider precutting puzzles prior to the activity.

Book suggestions

- **Lia & Luís: Puzzled!** by Ana Crespo and Giovana Medeiros

Download links

Puzzled—Full Activity PDF

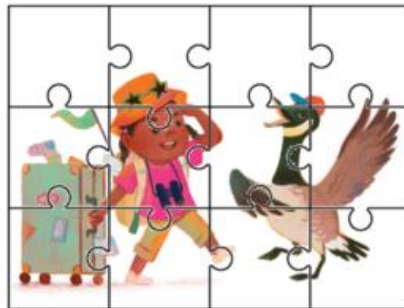
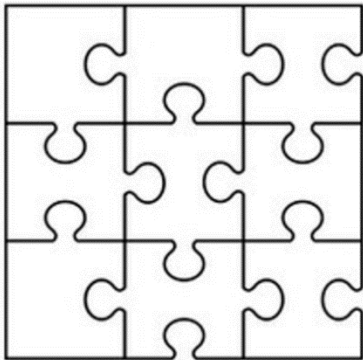
Puzzled—Images

Puzzled—Puzzles with Images

Puzzled—Blank Template

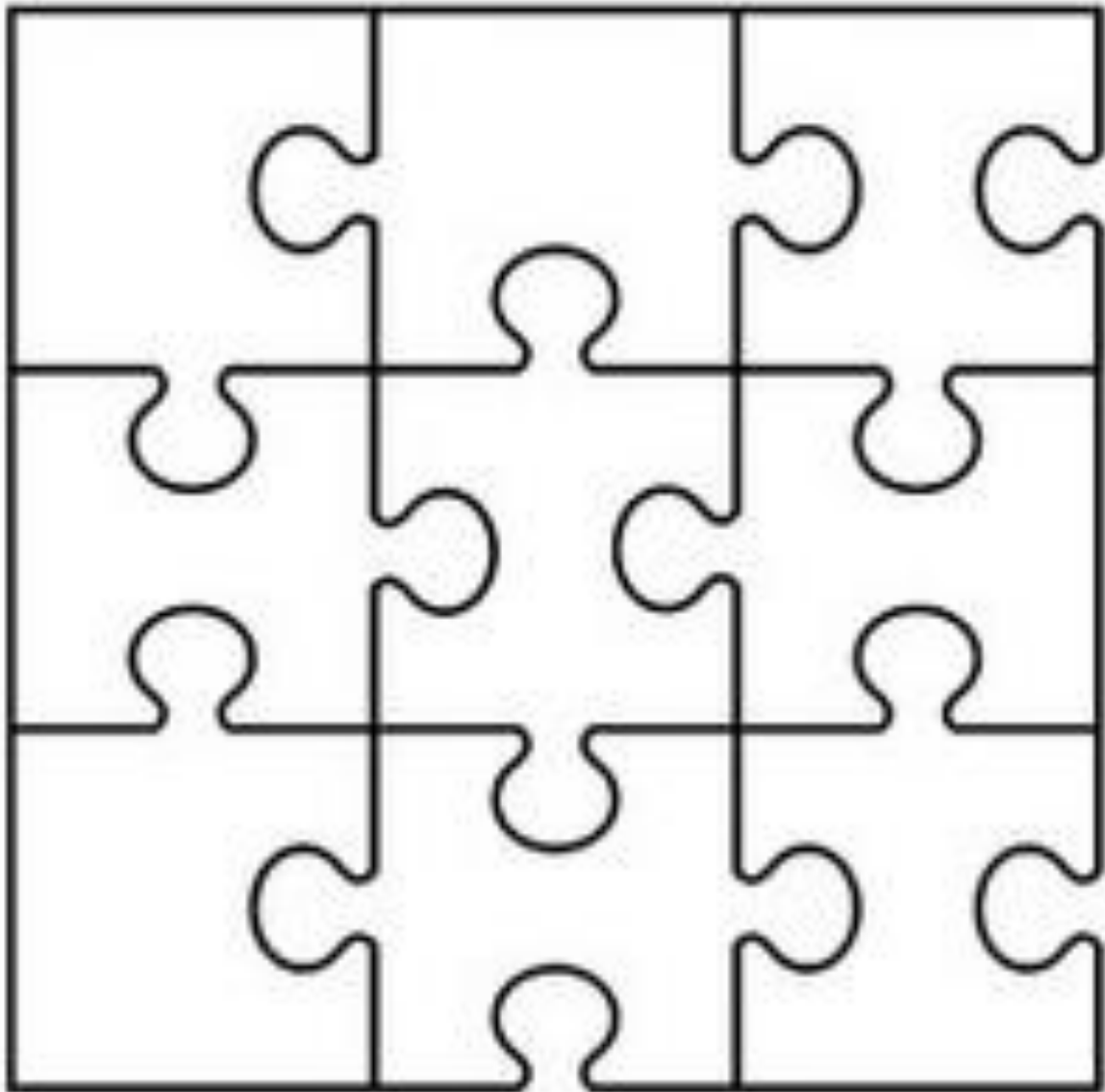
Images

Design Your Own Jigsaw Puzzle
3x3 (9 pieces)



Design Your Own Jigsaw Puzzle

3x3 (9 pieces)



Design Your Own Jigsaw Puzzle

4x4 (16 pcs)

