



<http://www.communitypuzzle.com>

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This box includes the following:

- 1 - This sheet of instructions
- 2 - General information sheet (on reverse)
- 3 - Puzzle piece printed to full scale (below) - labeled with top, bottom, right, and left. We suggest copying this puzzle piece as often as you like, 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 10,000 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 color, 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 - Color Marker

Testing Page -

Use the shiny side of the blank sheet to test your markers. It is made of the same material as the face of the puzzle pieces. We suggest using quality permanent markers, but any markers, crayons, colored pens or pencils will work. Various paints give nice results too. You might also experiment with gluing beads, pieces of colored paper, small magazine pictures, etc. onto the pieces. **Whatever you use to decorate your puzzle pieces be sure to test your methods without wasting any of your actual puzzle parts.**

6 - 48 Total Puzzle Pieces Per Set

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

Preserving Your Completed Puzzle

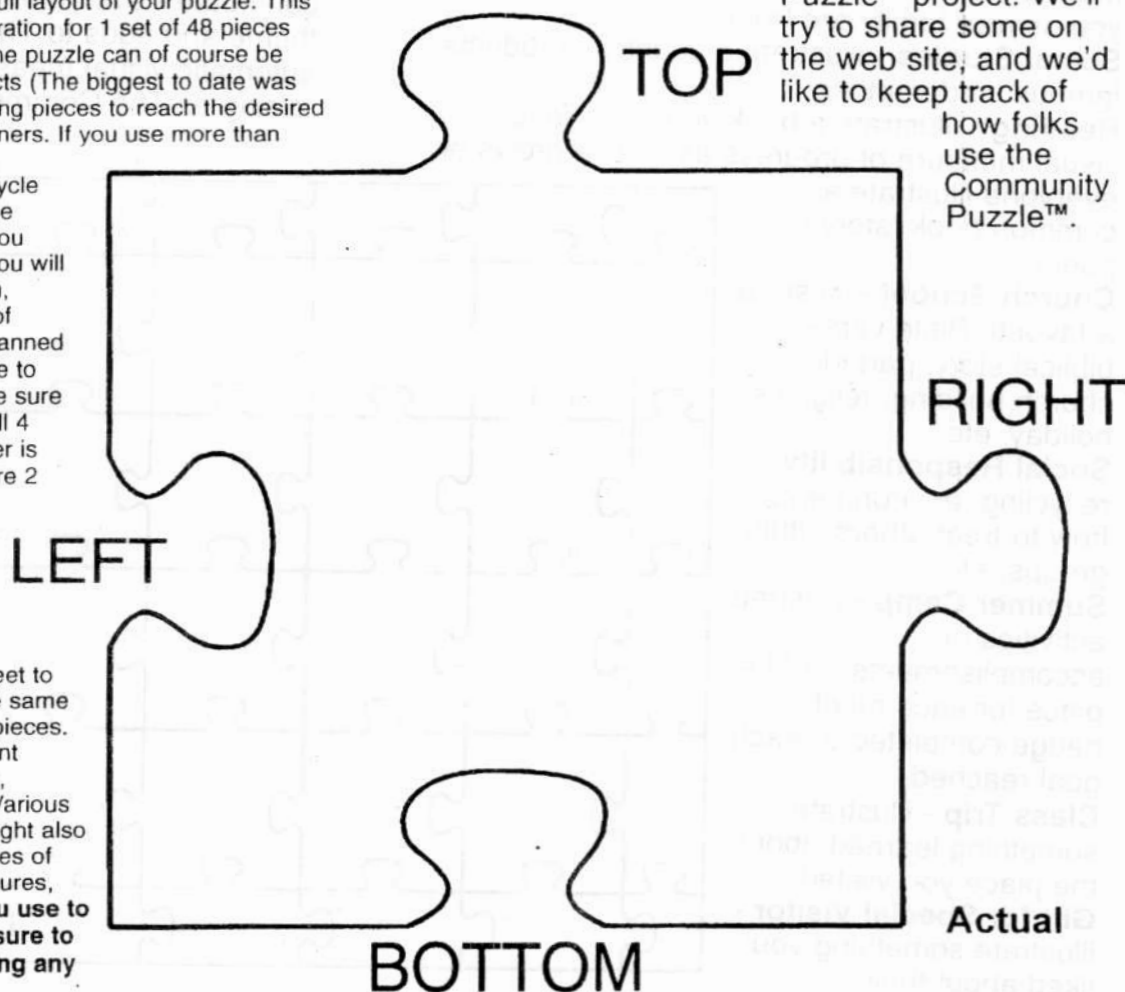
Once completed, you may want to permanently display your Community Puzzle™. To hold the pieces together, turn the completed puzzle upside down, and coat the back with a quality white glue. Don't use too much, and try to keep the glue from leaking through the cracks to the face of the puzzle. While the glue is still wet, apply layers of newspaper, craft paper, or posterboard, 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. **Be sure to test whatever material you are using on the test puzzle piece mentioned above to make sure you don't have some adverse reaction between the coating and the markers, crayons, or other materials you used**

Proudly Display Your Community Puzzle™

Check our web site for additional ideas, where to get your Community Puzzle™ etc. Send us a picture of your puzzle, and tell us about any special things you did with the Community

Puzzle™ project. We'll try to share some on the web site, and we'd like to keep track of how folks use the Community Puzzle™.



The Community Puzzle™

<http://www.communitypuzzle.com>

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Think of it as a Community 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 utilizing a common theme - suggestions below. Any size group can participate - all you need to do is get enough pieces (they come in sets of 24 pieces plus borders and corners) Our largest so far was over 10,000 pieces, but there is absolutely no limit. You just need a place to put it together - remember - the pieces fit anywhere so it is not hard to assemble.

Theme ideas for The Community Puzzle™

Character Building - illustrate a positive trait or person you admire

Nature - illustrate a plant or animal in a particular habitat

Multi-cultural - illustrate something about where you or your family are from

Social Studies - illustrate a country - products, famous leader, other

Reading - illustrate a book you have read - visual measure of progress as puzzle grows or everyone illustrate a common book, story or poem

Church School - illustrate a favorite Bible verse, biblical story, part of church building, religious holiday, etc.

Social Responsibility - recycling, environment, how to treat others, ethnic groups, etc.

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

Class Trip - illustrate something learned about the place you visited

Gift for Special Visitor - illustrate something you liked about their presentation

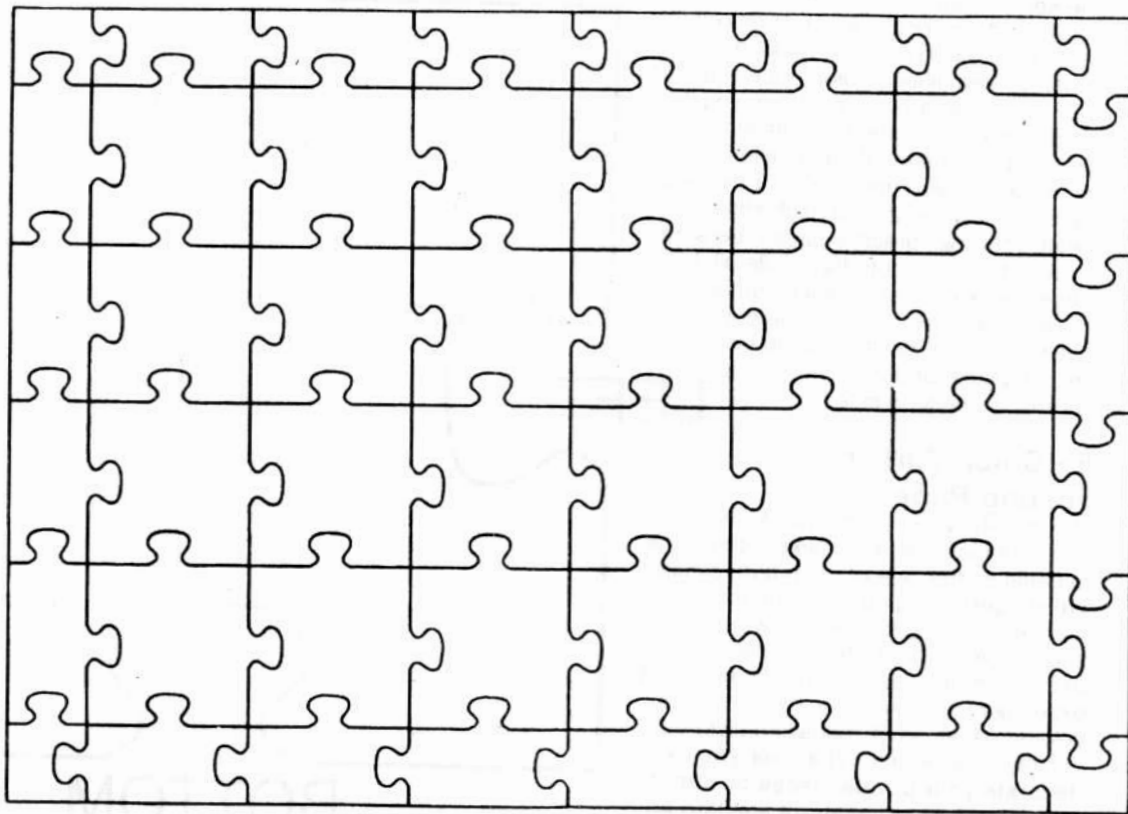
Birthday Parties, Reunions, Retirements, Holidays, Staff Development, Bridal & Baby Showers, Senior Citizens

Other general suggestions - bodies (hands, feet, faces), numbers, letters, colors, safety, sports, exercise, travel (cars, trucks, boats, etc) or places (cities, states, countries), jobs/professions, flowers, trees, insects, foods, weather, toys, clothes, or - just turn everyone loose to create whatever they want!

General Suggestions - Have special related people add to The Community Puzzle™ - other school staff, parents, community leaders, minister, etc.

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.

The Fund Raising Community Puzzle™ - Sell each piece for \$5.00 - (or any other set price)- low price point lets larger segment of community contribute - everyone decorates according to the theme and adds to The Community Puzzle™ - automatic visual measure of progress of fund raising as The Community Puzzle™ grows.



Completed Puzzle is 20" x 28"

Suggested puzzle layout showing corners and 2 border shapes - any arrangement is fine as pieces are interchangeable