



Head Start School Intervention Project  
**Cooperation: Partner Puzzles**

**Goal of activity:** Children exposed to violence often have difficulty with cooperative play and reciprocity in relationships. This activity will allow children to engage in a cooperative activity with peers.

**Approximate length of activity: 10 – 15 minutes**

**Materials:** Large pictures placed cardstock or poster board and cut into 2-3 pieces to create a puzzle.

**Instructional Procedures:**



- The teacher/aide will cut pictures into 2-3 different pieces.
- The teacher/aide will demonstrate putting a puzzle together by showing children several puzzle pieces and allowing children to guess aloud which piece will fit.
- The teacher/aide will explain that the students will be working together to make a picture with their own puzzle pieces.
- The teacher/aide will pass out one puzzle piece to each child.
- The children will be instructed to find the other person who has the other half of their puzzle.
- Each pair or groups will show and tell the other students the picture they made.



Feeling Good about Learning



Making and Keeping Friends

 <p><b>KEY POINTS</b> anxiety/overstimulation</p> <p><b><u>Viewing sharing as a threat</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Place children side by side and work with them so they can see what can be made when two pieces are put together.</li> <li>○ Allow children time to experiment on their own with the puzzles prior to working in pairs.</li> </ul>	 <p><b>LITERACY TIPS</b></p> <p><b><u>Oral Language</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ask probing questions to encourage children to use more complex sentences: “What colors are in your puzzle piece?” “What can you think of that is green?”</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Phonology</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Choose a picture of an item that begins with the sound of the letter of the week. Remind children of the clues they have: “This item is green and it begins with the sound “t”.”</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Print Knowledge</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Label the picture and help children to read the word when the puzzle is put together.</li> </ul>
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