



WPI

Campus Center and Student Activities

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Piece by Piece

Group Size

Small, Medium, Large

Estimated Time

6-10 Minutes

Materials Needed

One 50 piece puzzle per group of four

Instructions

1. Divide the pieces from each puzzle into four small bags.
2. put one complete puzzle – four bags – on each table.
3. Organize participants into groups of four
4. Tell each participant to take a bag.
5. Explain that they are going to put a puzzle together with their tablemates but they have to follow these instructions closely
 - a. In your groups you each have pieces that make up one puzzle
 - b. Begin by putting your puzzle pieces together by alternating turns. One person should put down one piece, and then the next person should put down the next, etc. You should do this without talking or touching one another's pieces.
6. After one minute, give these instructions:
 - a. Continue taking turns putting down pieces in silence, but you now may touch one another's pieces.
7. After one more minute, give this instruction:
 - a. You will have two minutes to finish putting the puzzle together any way you choose. Talking is permitted during this last two minutes.
8. After the final two minutes, stop the puzzle making
9. Ask participants for observations and insights they gained from this activity

Resources:

West, Edie. 201 Icebreakers. McGraw Hill, New York, 1997. Page 272