



Puzzle Detective

Compare, turn, and adjust puzzle pieces until the picture fits.

Helps Your Child Grow



Reasoning and Problem-Solving

Trying pieces, comparing them with an opening, and changing their position gives your child practice using different approaches to solve a problem.



Fine Motor

Picking up, aligning, turning, and pressing puzzle pieces gives your child practice coordinating both hands with visual information.

Steps

- Choose a puzzle showing something your child currently enjoys, such as cars or animals. Interest in the picture can make trying more appealing.
- Begin with a four- or six-piece inset puzzle. Look at the completed picture together, mix the pieces, and let your child try. Add more pieces only after this version becomes familiar.
- If your child asks for help finding a piece, compare several pieces with the empty space instead of giving the answer. Ask which shape looks most likely to fit.
- If the right piece is turned the wrong way, wait before moving it yourself. Say, “Try turning it,” and let your child adjust the direction.
- When the puzzle is complete, acknowledge the process: “You compared it, turned it, and made it fit.”

Tips

- As the puzzle becomes easy, move gradually to nine or twelve pieces while keeping a picture your child enjoys.
- Use the same problem-solving language in daily routines: “Could we try another way?”

Observations

- Keeps adjusting pieces until the puzzle is complete
- Places a puzzle piece with one hand while steadying the board with the other