

Jigsaw

20-40 minutes

SEL FOCUS: RESPONSIBLE DECISION-MAKING, SELF AWARENESS, SOCIAL AWARENESS

This activity supports skill development in Responsible Decision-Making (Ethical Responsibility), Social Awareness (Respect for Others), and Self-Awareness (Self-Efficacy) as participants are challenged to teach what they have learned to peers.

OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

Small groups each discuss a different excerpt of an article or topic. Groups then reorganize so that each new group contains one member from each of the original groups. The members of the new group now "teach" their excerpt to the members of their new group.

MATERIALS NEEDED

Poster, 2 people or more, timer

ACTIVITY

1. Select an appropriate text and divide it into numbered sections so that each group gets a piece that's readable during the amount of time you'll be providing. Preplan for students who will need a particularly accessible section, or who will benefit from receiving their reading ahead of time.
2. Divide participants into same-sized small groups, and assign one section of the article to the members of each group.
3. Allow groups to discuss their section or topic for 5 to 10 minutes, with everyone in the group supporting one another to fully understand their piece.
4. Number off within each group, counting up to the number of new small groups you are forming. Then ask all the "1s," "2s," "3s," etc., to find each other and form new groups.

5. The new group members then take turns teaching their piece to their new group in the sequenced order of the article. Designate a "timer" within each group who ensures that each person has equal time to do their teaching, answer questions from the group, etc.

DEBRIEF

- Share one new thing they learned.
- Offer an appreciation for “a teaching strategy that really helped me understand, because...”
- Write a silent reflection to self-assess on areas they thought they were particularly effective in when they taught their piece, and what they might try to do differently next time.