

OUR GIFTS PUZZLE

MATERIALS |

Large blank puzzle pieces made from paper or cardstock that all fits together; markers/crayons

OPTIONAL: Other art supplies such as magazines, glitter, construction paper, or glue

OBJECTIVES | The objectives of this activity are for participants to recognize their own strengths and those of their classmates and to begin considering how to build on these strengths to create a supportive classroom environment.

FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS |

Introduce the concept of “gifts”

- Your gifts are special skills, ideas, approaches, perspectives you have that can make a contribution to the group.
- For example, some participants may have the “gift” of humor, which can help lighten a mood, make people feel better, or bring other’s joy. Perhaps others are good at asking questions, or good at listening and being quiet, or good at taking notes, or gifted in explaining things clearly, or organizing.

Give participants a paper or cardboard puzzle piece to decorate or illustrate in a way that represents the “gifts” they bring to your community. Puzzle pieces can be as creative as participants wish and can include illustrations, words, cutouts, or murals.

After participants have finished their individual puzzle pieces invite each person to share with the group what their gift(s) is and how they chose to represent it.

Put puzzle together in a large mural to represent that everyone has something to contribute to the broader community.

DEBRIEF QUESTIONS |

- How did it feel to do this activity?
- What did we learn about ourselves and each other in this process?
- How can we use what we learned about each other to better work together this year?



SUPPORTING MEDIA |

<https://www.michiganlearning.org/sharing-who-we-are/>

NOTES |

Consider taking a class or group picture to put in the middle of the puzzle.

Our Gifts Puzzle Piece

