

This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. This is the second week of our Summer Reading program, "All together now!" What better way to celebrate then by making our own puzzle with distinctly different pieces that fit together perfectly? You can cut out a few pieces and share with family and friends to each make their own design. Then have some fun gathering to see how they fit together to make a wonderful picture. The simple act of creating a single piece of art can be very creative, but working together to create something bigger can spark greater possibility and productivity. It's not puzzling, it can happen if we work together!



1-On a piece of paper or cardstock, draw a puzzle piece. Make sure all the sides are equal in order to fit together. This means, the tabs that are outside the shape must fit into the holes that go inside the shape. Cut the shapes out. You can trace on to a heavy cardboard or cereal box for a thicker puzzle. Cut out the cardboard shapes. Remember, it is easier to cut straight lines when working with cardboard and then trim the rounded edges. You may even have to trim the pieces a little more to fit together. Take your time to shape the pieces before decorating. For the younger artist, just make square tabs or small points. Give one to a family or friend and have them decorate their own piece.

2- This is a great time to be creative. Color your puzzle piece. Make a face on it! Add silly smiles and bright eyes. Write your name on it! Decorate with paper, beads, or even words of inspiration. When you are done decorating, you can cover the whole piece in a mixture of glue and a little water. Let it dry and your piece will be stronger and last longer. Have a get together and see how all the pieces work together. Or, keep a bunch of pieces on-hand and make them during your summer, when you are not reading. It can be the never-ending puzzle story.

Solve the puzzle by working all together!

Ms. Susan

