

# Puzzled By Teamwork

**Materials:** Enough 100-piece puzzles for each group. Divide the students into groups of 3-5.

**Directions:**

1. Take the pieces of the puzzle out of the box and place them in a different puzzle box. The idea of this is so the puzzle pieces inside each box should not match the picture on the lid of the box.
2. Tell the teams that they will race to see which team completes their puzzle first.
3. There will be obstacles--the first being that they don't have a picture to go by and that they must work together to complete the puzzle.
4. Observe to see if a "leader" emerges. Have they divided tasks, i.e., one person putting together the outside pieces; another person taking the "blue sky" pieces, another person taking another predominant color/design and putting those pieces together, etc.

**Debrief:**

- Discuss teamwork and overcoming obstacles.
- What were the major obstacles?
- How did they overcome these obstacles?

**Variation:** To make it more difficult, you could place additional obstacles, i.e., they may only use their right hands, they cannot talk, only one person touches the puzzle pieces while the others are "lookers" or "directors."

