## **American Flag Puzzle**

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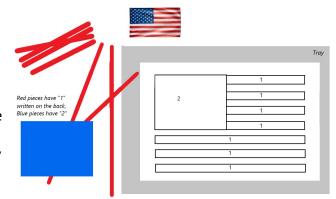
Here's an activity the family can do together over the holiday weekend that encourages intergenerational social interaction and motor skill practice, or one-on-one with a caregiver.

## **MATERIALS**

- One tray
- Picture of the American Flag
- One sheet of white craft foam with adhesive backing to use as background
- One sheet of dark blue craft foam (5.5" x 5"), with adhesive backing
- One sheet of red craft foam (12" x 5.25"). Cut into 7 strips (Three 12" x 0.75" + Four 6.5" x 0.75"), with adhesive backing still attached
- 50 gold teacher reward stars stickers or pre-punched white foam stars, divided between participants.

## **SETUP**

- 1. Use a black marker to outline the spaces for red strips and blue star background.
- 2. Write #1 on the back of each red strip and write #2 on the back of each blue strip.
- 3. In the middle of the spaces (on the white foam) for the red strips, write the number 1. Write 2 in the white space for the blue star background piece.
- 4. Place the white craft foam sheet in the middle of the tray in front of participants.
- 5. Place the remaining items in separate piles near the tray



## **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Ask participants to look at the picture of the flag and place it next to the tray.
- 2. Tell participants they will put puzzle pieces on top of the white background to make the flag.
- 3. Show participants the red strips and blue piece.
- 4. Ask one of the participants to hand you the blue piece for the star background.
- 5. Turn the piece over and ask participants to tell you the number on the reverse side ("2").
- 6. Ask participants to show you that same number on the white background sheet.
- 7. Demonstrate for participants how the adhesive backing is easily removed.
- 8. Place the blue star background piece in place on the white sheet.
- 9. Invite participants to take turns doing the same with red strips until all have been secured on the white base.
- 10. Demonstrate how to affix a star to the blue background, then ask them to finish doing the rest.



Find extensions and modifications of this activity, and many others, in the book: Montessori-Based Activities for Persons with Dementia, Vol 2. Purchase the manual and other resources at www.cen4ard.com.

