

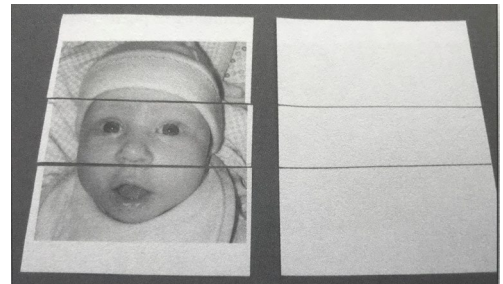
MONTESSORI-BASED DEMENTIA PROGRAMMING® ACTIVITY IDEAS

Face Puzzle

In this activity, we create puzzles made from photos of faces. It's especially fun to do this activity when the photo is of someone that is important to you or your family member.

Instructions

1. Select a picture. It can be a photo of a family member or a picture from a magazine. You could even use a photo of a favorite pet or an object relating to their career if you want to use something other than faces. The picture should be large (8.5 x 11 should work well), so it may have to be enlarged.
2. Glue the enlarged picture onto a piece of cardstock or poster board before cutting out the pieces. Remember to use non-toxic glue.
3. Outline in black marker the shape of the puzzle pieces on a separate piece of paper or cardstock. This will serve as your template and guide your family member as to where the pieces go (see photo).



Tips

- Provide verbal cues if needed.
- For your first puzzle, cut the photo into only two or three pieces. You can always make puzzles with more pieces at a later time.
- When making a face puzzle, include just the face. When there's too much going on in the background, it's distracting. Eliminate the clutter.



Look at the photos and reminisce.

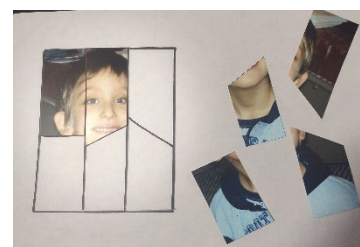
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FACE PUZZLE (continued)

Adaptations

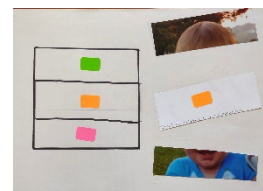
More Challenging

- Increase the number of puzzle pieces.
- Cut out different shapes for the puzzle pieces. For example, instead of straight-edged pieces use curvy ones.
- Try the activity without the template.

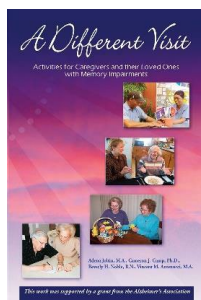


Less Challenging

- You do the puzzle while your family member watches.
- Create a two-piece puzzle to start with. Once your family member has mastered the two-piece puzzle, then you can try the same puzzle with three pieces and continue building in that manner.
- Put a number on the back of each puzzle piece. Put the corresponding number on the template where that piece should go.
- In a similar way, you can use color-coding to give cues to your family member.
- Instead of using only outlines of the puzzle pieces for a template, make a copy of the photo and use it as a template. Be sure to include the outline of the puzzle pieces.
- Just look at the photos and reminisce.



Grandchildren can help with this activity.



From
**A Different Visit: Activities for Caregivers and
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