

JIGSAW

PURPOSE:

The purpose of Jigsaw is to develop teamwork and cooperative learning skills. In addition, it helps develop a depth of knowledge not possible if the students were to try and learn all of the material on their own.

Jigsaw learning allows students to be introduced to material and yet maintain a high level of personal responsibility.

PROCEDURE:

1. Identify information that can be divided into segments and taught by students to other students (informational text, steps in a process, story characteristics, sequence of historical events, math or science processes, etc.)
2. Divide information into “chunks”. Identify the number of segments to be learned, and place the same number of students in each “home” group (3-5 students).
3. Assign a segment to be learned to each person in the “home” group.
4. Each student reads material independently.
5. Students meet in expert groups – all students who studied segment “1” together, “2” together and so on.
6. Provide expert sheets for students to use in their planning to guide the understanding.

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7. After expert groups meet, students return to “home” group to share their understanding.
8. After expert groups share, each group responds to formative assessment such as “Numbered Heads Together” where teacher asks questions related to the reading and the cooperative group “put their heads together” to respond.

EXPERT SHEET EXAMPLE

Great Britain	
GROUP 1 Natural Resources	GROUP 2 Land and Water Forms
GROUP 3 Imports and Exports	GROUP 4 Political Climate