

# Re-entry Classroom Interventions



## #1: Group Puzzle

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The **Re-entry Classroom Interventions** are intended to provide a platform and designated time for debriefing the loss resulting from the abrupt end of last school year, as well as provide a way for your students to share any feelings they have with returning to school during a pandemic.

**Together as a class**, the group will create a class motto or message of hope to promote unity for the new school year. Students will achieve this by creating individual pieces based on classroom/virtual discussions that contribute to final group artwork.

**Please note:** *Your school counselor or principal should be notified in advance of doing this activity with your students, as participating in it may unveil feelings and vulnerability for students.*

### Instructions for Creating the Group Puzzle

**Present the purpose of this activity to students.**

This project works well with in-person instruction; however, you can adapt it to virtual learning. Begin a classroom discussion, asking students to identify and share feelings they have upon their return to school. Open the discussion to share feelings and points of view about the abrupt end of last school year and converting to virtual learning. Utilize the white board/chalk board/Smartboard or equivalent to write words or phrases, as students share and brainstorm ideas.

**Pass out individual puzzle pieces to each student.**

Encourage students to illustrate an image that encompasses their feelings on the puzzle piece. Students may choose a word from the board to incorporate into their design or use as inspiration.

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## *Group Puzzle – continued from previous page*

### **Assemble the puzzle.**

Students will assemble the puzzle with their finished pieces to display in the classroom.  
(Hint: It may be helpful to number the back of the puzzle pieces to assist during assembly.)

### **Begin discussion of unity.**

Highlight any areas of strength seen within the puzzle or based on student reactions. Emphasize the importance of the individual pieces coming together to form one piece and relate this to students in the classroom as individuals uniting together as a class. Encourage students to use this as a starting point to unite as a class during these uncertain times.

### **Create a classroom motto.**

Brainstorm ideas about classroom unity and hope for the current school year. (Ex: “We’re all in this together”)

### **Create a banner.**

With a piece of paper that stretches across the assembled puzzle, write the motto on it and display the classroom motto across the completed puzzle.

### **Hang the assembled puzzle with the banner in classroom.**

Let it serve as a reminder throughout the term.

### **Helpful Hints:**

You can use a jigsaw puzzle template to precut puzzle pieces using thick card stock or cardboard.

Blank puzzles in various sizes are also available for purchase at craft stores.

You can utilize butcher paper and a projector to trace jigsaw pieces, or Silhouette or Cricut to assist, if accessible.

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