

Teaching Notes

Based on **Jigsaw: A Puzzle in the Post** by Bob Graham

Discussion points

- Do you like puzzles? Do you like surprises? Would your family like a jigsaw in the post?
- The Kelly's find a parcel in their mail and open it to find a jigsaw puzzle from far away Africa. We wonder who the children are. Let's see if we can find their names. (Kitty and Katie)
- Who else will be in the story? (Dad, Mum and their family dog, Lucy.)
- We see lots of houses on the title page, but can we work out which is the Kelly's house?
- Turn the page and you will see something when you look through their front door.
- On the next page you learn that Dad sets his watch to late Autumn.
- Do you know what season comes after Autumn? What other seasons are there?
- Would Winter be a good season to work on their jigsaw? Why?
- Can you tell from the picture that something is a bit wrong? A problem perhaps?
- What might have happened to the missing piece of the jigsaw?
- We find out that the girls played outdoors in Spring and Summer.
- Do you remember any of the messages the family saw amongst the rubbish at the dump?
- What did you spot in the picture where the family were sadly walking home?
- Who put the lost puzzle piece, the hippo's swimsuit, into the puzzle?

Activities

Learn how jigsaw puzzles work.

- Look at a jigsaw puzzle and how the pieces are joined.
- Find the corner and edge pieces first and put them in place.
- Look for pieces according to the shapes or colours needed to fit a space.
- Don't forget to try turning pieces around to see if they will fit.

Rotational Activities

Incorporate a variety of early childhood puzzles amongst group work.