



ESSENTIALS

Cooperative Learning Strategy

Jigsaw ~ Grades 6-12 from AdLit.org

Jigsaw is a well-established method for encouraging group sharing and learning of specific content. It helps to improve listening, communication, and problem-solving skills.



The following steps are used when developing the jigsaw strategy for a class:

1. Introduce the topic and assign each student to a "home group" of 3-5 students who reflect a range of reading abilities. (See grouping diagram below.)
2. Determine a set of reading selections and assign one selection to each student.
3. Create "expert groups" from each "home group" who will read the same selection.
4. Give all students a framework for managing their time on the various parts of the jigsaw task.
5. Provide key questions to help the "expert groups" gather information in their particular area.
6. Provide resources necessary for all students to learn about their topics and become "experts."
7. Discuss the rules for reconvening into "home groups" and provide guidelines as each "expert" reports the information learned.
8. Prepare a summary chart or graphic organizer for each "home group" as a guide for organizing the experts' information report. (See graphic organizer below.)
9. Remind students that "home group" members are responsible to learn all content from one another.

[Grouping Diagram](#)

[Graphic Organizer](#)

