

Jigsaw



Brief Summary

Narrative material that is divided into parts is given to the whole class. For example, assume the narrative material is divided into four parts. Students are arranged into small groups and numbered one through four. Next, students relocate around the room by assigned numbers and become experts in their material by reading and discussing the narrative. Finally, students return to their original small groups and present their findings. All team members are assessed on all four topics.

Example Use in STEM EDA

Suggested articles and reading materials are provided throughout all STEM EDA modules. In particular, within Apply Roller Coasters students will read articles to learn about the following: 1) inertia/momentum, 2) centripetal force, 3) kinetic energy and 4) potential energy. In each team, have students number off from one to four. This will determine which of the four topics mentioned above they will research and master. Students should move to a designated area in the room to learn about their topics; then they will return to their original teams and teach their teammates about their topics.

Ideas on Implementation

1. Monitor each of the four learning groups. Utilize the questions and prompts throughout the STEM EDA module as learning guides. Consider creating additional questions for students to research or have students pose their own questions that are relevant to the topics.
2. Provide ample time for each numbered group to read the articles on their topics, and to summarize the information. Setting a classroom timer that can be displayed in the room is helpful for students to manage their time.
3. Encourage students to take turns reading passages from the articles out loud to their numbered group and then summarize what they read while taking notes over the material.
4. After each of the numbered groups concludes their reading and research, students should receive enough time to teach each of their original teammates.
5. Concluding the jigsaw process, consider facilitating a quick class discussion to determine if key points within the four topics were obtained by all students; or provide a quick assessment during the next class session.