

TINKER LAB *At Home!*

HOMEMADE PUZZLES PT. 1

Age: 4-8

Materials: Cereal box, scissors, ruler, pencil, and eraser.

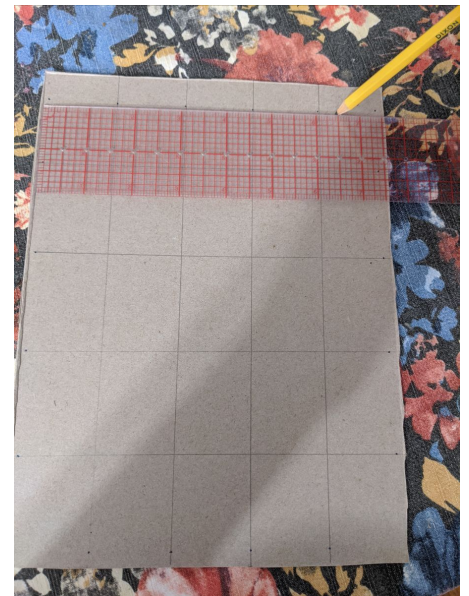
Introduction: Staying at home these weeks has been very challenging for all of us, and we need to find new and fun things to find joy in our days. Making your own puzzle is a fun activity and a great workout for our brains. These homemade puzzles can make heartfelt gifts to your friends and family and they are also a great way to help the earth by recycling cereal box cardboard.

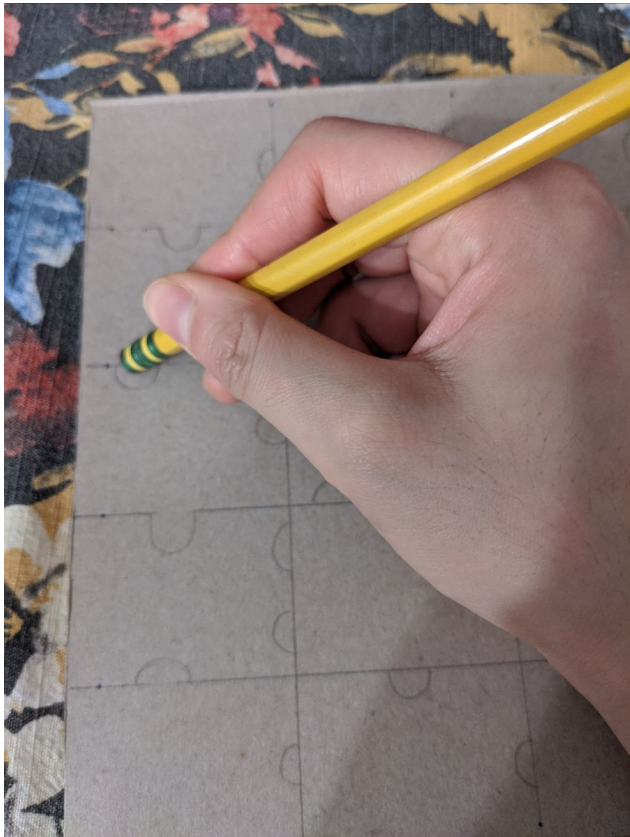
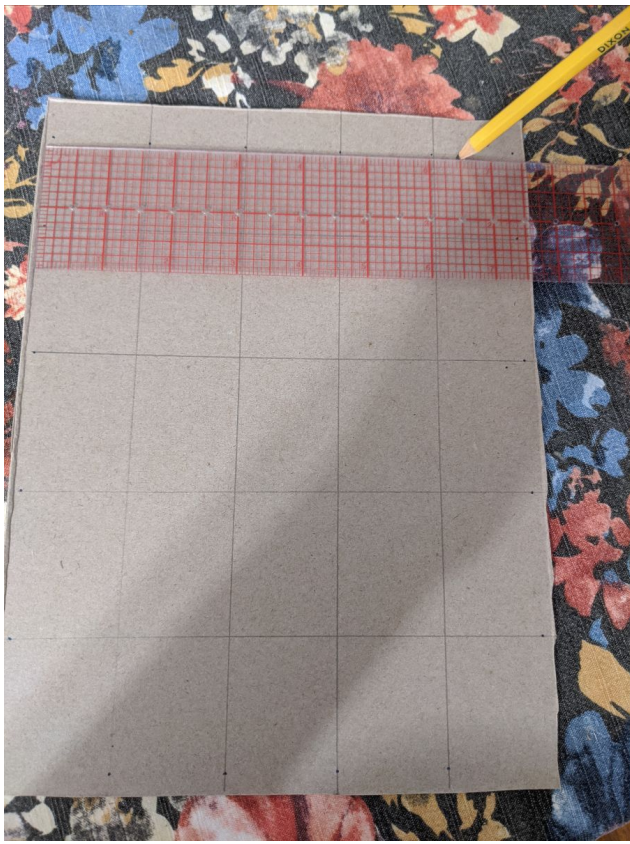
A puzzle is a game in which we need to put pieces together in a logical way, in order to arrive at the correct solution.

Activity:

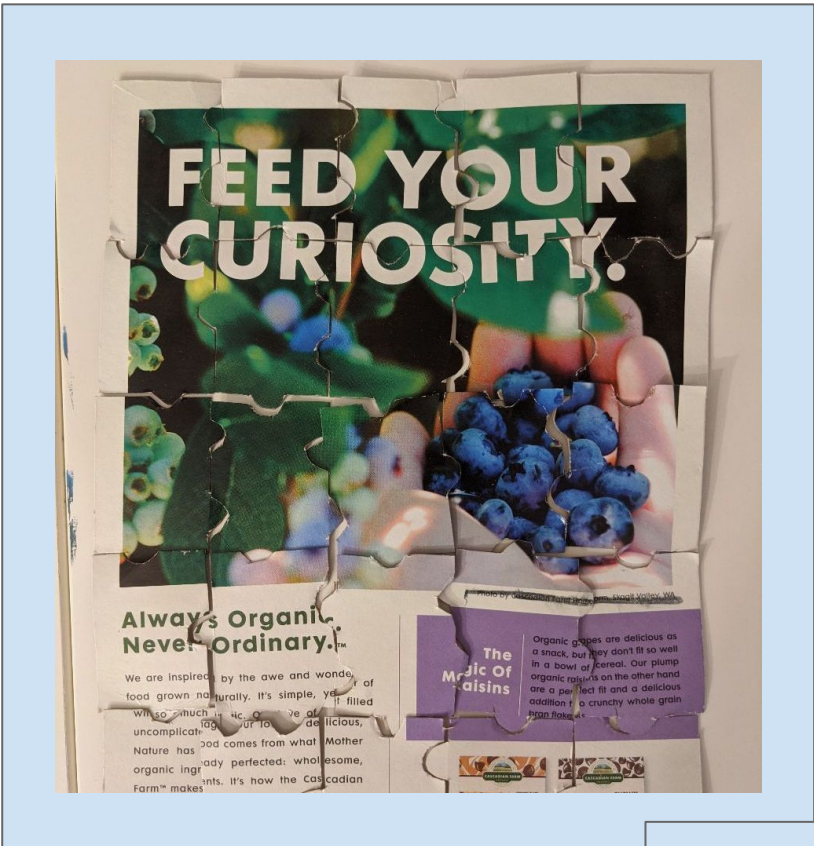


First, cut out the front panel of the cereal box with the scissors. Flip your cereal box cardboard over and place it image-side down.





Once you have all your rectangles or squares drawn, add concave and convex half-circles along the edges of the grid squares so that the pieces will fit into each other when the puzzle is cut. You can also use inverted and protruding triangles, squares, or other shapes. Do not add half-circles to the border of the external pieces. These external pieces are called edge pieces and have at least one completely straight side while the centerpieces have no straight sides. Corner pieces, or pieces with two straight sides, are considered edge pieces. When you have finished, use an eraser to remove any remaining pencil marks.



With your scissors, cut out your puzzle pieces by following the puzzle template you've drawn on the back. To make it easier, do not cut out pieces individually. Instead, try cutting an entire row or column at a time, and then go back to cut out the individual pieces.

Your puzzle is ready! Try to assemble the puzzle. Here are some tips to help you with your puzzle: Sort the puzzle pieces by major color or feature. Separate out the edge pieces from the other puzzle pieces and set them on your workspace. Begin building the puzzle by connecting all of the edge pieces together into lines. And store your pieces in a clear bag.

