

This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. Sometimes, we are often puzzled by what is art and what is craft. Art is described as an unstructured form of work with unlimited possibility which expresses emotions, feelings, and vision. Whereas craft is creating a physical object, by the use of hands and brain, and based on learned skills and technique. It would seem, if we put the pieces together, I am instructing you in a craft that you can turn into art from your heart. This week, we will take a simple puzzle and recycle the pieces into our own art.



1- Draw the first letter of your name on a piece of thick paper or cardboard. You can often use rectangles to make your letter. Make a rectangle about the width of a ruler to use as a template. Lay it down on the paper and draw around the rectangle to form the shape of your letter. You can color the letter with crayons or markers for a bright base. Use an old puzzle to place pieces in one layer on your letter. If you do not have a puzzle, cut out multiple circles, squares, or shapes from paper. It is just fine if they go over the edges of the letter. You may want to lay out all the pieces before you glue them down to see how they will fit on the letter. Glue them in place. After the first layer has dried, you can add another layer that overlaps the first layer. To secure the pieces, add an extra dose of glue and let dry overnight.

2- If you do not like the color of your puzzle pieces, turn them over and decorate them with crayons, markers, or paint. Decorate your letter with other favorite items. This is a great piece of art that you can frame and hang up or give as a gift to a special someone. If you do not want to make a letter, you can make other shapes like a heart or a truck. This is a great activity for anyone young to old. Count the pieces out as you place them on the letter. Play a game, draw your letter and someone else can draw their letter. Roll a pair of dice and place the matching number of pieces inside your letter. The first one to fill the letter wins! Oh, the possibilities!

Don't be puzzled, enjoy the process!

