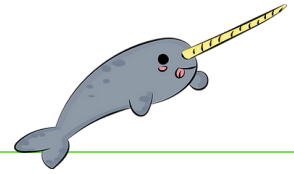




# PUZZLES!

Grades K-3



## LET'S PUZZLE!

Students will work together to solve a puzzle

### GUTEN TAG!

10 min

### STORY & SNACK

20 min

### SPORTS / GAMES

30 min

#### Materials:

- Buckets
- Soft foam or rubber balls

#### Guten Tag is German for hello!

Greet your students. Be friendly. Use their name, ask a question, give a high five, or thumbs-up! Take roll. Mark down which students took a snack and tally how many snacks were given out.

#### Read the story:

Today's story is called Mrs. Penguins Perfect Palace. Read the story to your students outside as they sit in a circle.

#### Penguin Egg Relay

Students will relay race while holding a ball between their legs as they quickly move from one end of the playing field to the other to deposit their ball into the bucket without using their hands.

Instructions- Organize students evenly into teams with about 5 to 7 players per team. Teams will line up at one end of playing field, about 6 feet apart from other teams. At the other end of the playing field there will be a bucket waiting for each team. Each team will be given a ball. Students will play as penguins.

To play the game, the instructor says "Go!" and the first student in line from each team will put the ball between their legs and race to the other side of the playing field where they will drop the ball into the bucket without using their hands. Once they drop the ball into the bucket, they may pick it up and race back to give the ball to the next person in line and the next player may go. The game continues until everyone in the relay has had a turn to race. The team whose players make it back first wins!



## STEM TIME

50 min

### Materials:

-  Puzzle

### Can You Solve the Puzzle?

Say- "Today we are going to solve a puzzle together! Solving puzzles is a fantastic way to develop organizational and categorical skills. It is also a great way to practice problem solving. These skills are important in coding and math."

#### Explain:

Choose a puzzle for the students to solve together. Some students may be familiar with puzzles, and others may have never done a puzzle like this before. When solving a puzzle there are some techniques that can be used. Share the following techniques with the students.

#### Instructions:

1. Flip over all the pieces.
2. Find all of the border pieces. These are the pieces with a flat edge.
3. Form the border.
4. Gather pieces that look like they belong together. They might have the same colors or patterns.
5. Form little piles of these pieces.
6. Try putting them together in the space that looks like they might belong there.
7. Experiment with the pieces and little by little the puzzle will come together.

#### Ask:

"What techniques are working for you?" "How many pieces have you been able to put together so far?"

#### Instructions:

Say - "Today we got to solve a puzzle! Write a journal entry about your experience."

#### Clean up/Free play/Dismissal

Allow your students some free time. Some students may wish to finish working on their STEM project. Others may want to journal or scrapbook about their day. Other students may want to go outside to play. Clean up, pack up.

## NATURE JOURNALING

15 min

## CLEAN UP / FREE PLAY

25 min

