



## Expert Partner Jigsaw

### What is it?

A differentiated, cooperative learning strategy where students work with a homogeneous partner to complete one of several assigned tasks. Students then individually return to a heterogeneous base group where they present their work to their peers. Each student's task is essential because their piece, combined with the pieces from the other members of the base group, allows each student to come to a complete and full understanding of the final product.

### Critical Attributes

- Base group - heterogeneous determined by a formative assessment
  - Expert partner - homogeneous based on formative assessment
  - Tiered work is assigned to expert partners
  - Students work with expert partner and then present individually to base group
  - Ensure individual accountability
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### Why use it?

- Engages each student at the correct level of difficulty with a homogeneous partner as a Scaffold
  - Increases individual accountability through sharing with base groups
  - Exposes all students to the varied levels of tasks through sharing with base groups
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### What are the guidelines for successfully implementing this strategy?

- Formative assessment is used both to develop the activity and to assign the tasks and grouping
- Clear explanations and checks for understanding of the expectations and procedures
- Physical set-up of the room lends itself to small group work and frequent transitions
- Students are required to use all learning from the activity in another lesson or activity
- The whole-part-whole format is implemented, at times, over two periods
- Anchors are available