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Daily Mental Exercise - as important as the physical

Monday, October 19, 2020

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I live on a lovely lake with 500 miles of shoreline. It was created in the 1960s when a power dam was built on the Roanoke River. I bought this 1000 piece puzzle as a stay-at-home Covid activity, provide mental exercise and also to support a local business.



Little did I know how hard it would be to complete without the help of children and grandchildren with their young, sharp eyes.

I like puzzles and often buy scenes of places we have visited.
This is London Bridge.



We were there with daughter #2 & family in 2012 at the start of the Olympics

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And again in 2014 with daughter #1 (Hayburner1969) & family.
I had a puzzle made of this photo of my favorite granddaughter and me at Stonehenge.
(She is our ONLY granddaughter. We have 5 grandsons)



I have several of these "family" puzzles.
Here are 3 of the grandchildren in 2011 in Paris.



Although most puzzles are made and then taken apart, I keep the special ones completed. They decorate assorted horizontal surfaces, covered by plastic sheets for protection.

My favorite is a collage puzzle of a trip to Europe in 2019 with both daughters' families. (Barcelona, Nice, Monaco, Rome, Pompeii & Mt Vesuvius)



Puzzles from photos are easily available to order online, but in my case they predate the Internet. My children received a small puzzle as Christmas present from my Dad way back in the 70s. I have that one framed.



It's my DAD! Their Grandpa ("Papa Frank") who they hadn't seen in awhile. He lived in another state. They were so surprised.

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RUNNINGCHIEF
Great idea - thanks!
200 days ago



HYPERKITTY
Great idea as a gift.
222 days ago





TOMATOCAFEGAL

These are neat!
223 days ago



SHAKERATTLEROLL

Such sweet memories that you have created for the family for years to come. Continue doing this as it's such a special treat and thank you for giving me an ideal for Christmas presents.
227 days ago



CD4114015



227 days ago



MTN_KITTEN

Great idea having family pictures made into puzzles. LOVE this.



227 days ago



DONNALEE-53



228 days ago



FRAN0426

I will say you did a great choice taking pictures of family on vacations, and had puzzles made of some of the pictures. We have one puzzle on a wall. It was one we bought for on of the fellows that loved doing puzzles here in the senior park we live at. When he was all done, he insisted we take the puzzle, all ready to hang up. So glad as less than a year later he and his wife move away closer to their children in a northern state, Myself, I have never enjoyed working on puzzles, but with this Corona virus hanging in, just might have to give it another go----maybe.
228 days ago



JAMER123

I have enjoyed puzzles for over a yr. The one I am working on now has been a bugger and has been worked on all summer. I am getting close but still too far away. This one is going to be decoupage and hung up never to be taken apart again. The other 5 are decorating surfaces too.



228 days ago



ELSCO55

Yes
228 days ago



PATSGIRLY

I love your blog! I like puzzles, but haven't done one in a while. Your blog has inspired me to buy a couple for the winter.
228 days ago



RUFFIT



228 days ago



GREENEMERALDGRL

awesome keepsakes
228 days ago



SPARKPEOPLE1951

Great idea and a great family, you are very lucky to be able to travel like that w/ your family. Have a nice weekend.
229 days ago



GETAGRIPNAN

Brain exercise is a must
229 days ago





JSTETSER

I agree! Daily mental exercise is so important. I'm thankful for you! Thank you for your blog!

V



229 days ago



LGRIF22

Cool idea! I can't even seem to put together a picture book of our special trips!

229 days ago

V



JUDYD207



229 days ago

V



JPPERSELL

What a fun way to recapture your visits to different countries! I am impressed. The picture of your father is amazing.

229 days ago

V



FITNIK2020

We did them with our boys at the beachhouse on rainy days (Maine) . A favorite was the Subway system maps... London, New York.

229 days ago

V



PAULALALALA

Great idea!

230 days ago

V



RACHNACH



231 days ago

V



OVERWORKEDJANET

I've made vacation photos into puzzles as gifts. I like letting my family enjoy my vacations.

231 days ago

V



UPTOIT59



231 days ago

V



PLCHAPPELL

You can put a special coating on the puzzles and frame them.

231 days ago

V



CORRIEC2

I love this!

231 days ago

V



KITTYHAWK1949



231 days ago

V



LINDA!

Love this.

231 days ago

V

TOMATOCAFEGAL

Woohoo

V



231 days ago



AZMOMXTWO

what a lovely tribute and a fantastic Idea
231 days ago

V



HAYBURNER1969

I remember making that puzzle of Papa! I remember when we first started to guess it was a picture of him. We were so excited!
231 days ago

V



NANCY-

Lovely puzzles and what great memories.




231 days ago

V



DRDIVA28

 Amazing puzzles and great advice :) Thanks for sharing!
232 days ago

V



LIS193

Love the family jigsaw puzzles! What a lovely way to relive memories.

232 days ago

V



MJREIMERS

Fun!
232 days ago

V



BUTTONPOPPER1

Doing puzzles together and commemorating your special times and trips with photo puzzles--your family looks so close-knit and fun to be a part of!

We did a thousand-piece puzzle last year, too. Whew--that thing was so much harder and more time-consuming than expected!



232 days ago

V



SPEDED2

We have a new puzzle started that resides on the dining room table. The picture puzzles are an awesome gift idea. With Christmas holidays so close, it may be difficult to get one ordered in time for Santa's sack. We have birthdays scattered throughout the year and those would make excellent gifts. Thank you for sharing such a brilliant idea.



Stay safe. Be well.
232 days ago

V



DOVESEYES

Wonderful gifts of times together :)
232 days ago

V



ALEXSGIRL1

what a lovely idea hugs
232 days ago

V



WATERMELLEN

Given your stellar record for completing puzzles, I'm sure you'll conquer this one too!! All brain synapses firing!!
232 days ago

V



SWEETNEEY

the way we were
232 days ago

V

**2BDYNAMIC**

Wow!! These puzzles with your pictures are really awesome and amazing! I commend you for your patience in putting them together! You certainly know how to make life an adventure! .. And it's a great way to get the family together and have fun! You may remember I also have 1 son and 2 daughters but a grand total of 5 granddaughters! ... 😊 ... Not a boy in the mix LOL! My one son has two girls, nearly grown! ... I am wondering if you backs is somehow on cork to hang on the wall?(After that much work I would never be able to take a part LOL).... All I can say is Great job!! ...😊
232 days ago

**HARROWJET**

I like doing puzzles too and did a few at the start of being shut in. I don't work on them in the summer but I found some to do when the weather means staying in.

We tell our grandson he is our favourite too and for the same reason you do. He is our only grandson among the 4 granddaughters.
232 days ago

**QUARTERMASTER3**

Well Said! KEEP SPARKING!

232 days ago

**SHERYE**

Puzzles are a great way to relax, I haven't been able to do one since my kitten arrived
232 days ago

**RAZZOOZLE**

I enjoy building puzzles but never seem to find the time.
232 days ago

**NANASUEH**

How fun!



233 days ago

**NASFKAB**

What a gorgeous idea!!!!!!!!!! Would make great souvenirs & keep oneself alert by doing it first.
Thank you for mentioning it
233 days ago

**KOHINOOR2**

AWESOME
The family picture puzzles are beautiful!! What a brilliant way to preserve family memories. ★ GREAT JOB! KEEP SPARKING! HUGS
233 days ago

Thank you for sharing.

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