



Supplies

- easy jigsaw puzzles (100 pieces or fewer) (you'll need 2 interlocking pieces per child)
- acrylic paint
- kitchen trash bags
- paintbrushes
- hole punches
- scissors
- yarn
- carabiners or keychain rings (2 per child) (check office supply stores)
- newspaper or disposable tablecloth

Easy Prep

- Cover your table with newspaper or a disposable tablecloth.
- Cut slits in the trash bags to make a head hole and arm holes.
- Make a sample craft to show kids.



Assemble a Puzzle

Say: **For our craft today, you'll each need two puzzle pieces that fit together. So first we need to assemble a puzzle!**

Spread out the puzzle, and have kids work together to assemble it. Then have kids each take two pieces that fit together. Have preschoolers wear the trash bags as smocks.

Make Keychains

Set out the rest of the supplies. Have kids follow these steps:

- Connect the two puzzle pieces, and paint a fun pattern or design on them. (Kids could paint on the back if the existing pattern is dark.)
- Write "Best Friends" or "God gives us friends" across the connected pieces.
- Take the pieces apart. Use a hole punch or scissors to poke a hole in an end of each piece. (Help preschoolers with hole punching.)
- Thread a small length of yarn through each hole.
- For each puzzle piece, thread the yarn through a carabiner and knot the ends.

Talk About It

Say: **When you take your puzzle pieces home, keep one and give the other to a friend outside of our class.** You could challenge kids to think of a friend who's a different age or from a different place to remind them of how Ruth was much younger than Naomi.

Ask: • **Who do you want to give your puzzle piece to?**

• **What do you like about that friend?**

Say: **Good friends are kind of like connecting puzzle pieces. God gives us friends that just fit together. Ruth and Naomi fit together, even though they were different ages and from different places. Ruth promised to be loyal to Naomi, and she helped Naomi get food to eat. Because Ruth stuck with Naomi, she met Boaz, who she later married.**

Have kids take their crafts home and give one piece to a friend. Encourage kids to hook the carabiners on their backpacks as a reminder that God gives us friends.