

# A Brief History of Jigsaw Puzzles

## the World and You



1776 - British mapmaker John Spilsbury makes wooden map puzzles to teach world geography.

1929+ - Cardboard jigsaw puzzles catch on during the Great Depression because they are an affordable distraction.

1946+ - Jigsaw puzzles are designed with company logos or other advertisements and given away free to customers.

Today - Jigsaw puzzle companies distinguish themselves by making handcrafted wooden puzzles for collectors or challenging puzzles for aficionados.



Toddler - We begin with wooden puzzles designed to teach simple shapes.

Child - Cardboard puzzles are inexpensive, easy to source, and they keep us engaged on a rainy day.

Adult - If we continue with jigsaw puzzles at all, it's likely that the puzzle image has become important. We have clear favourites.

Adult - Some of us enjoy collecting traditional or unusual puzzles. Some of us love the challenge of devilishly difficult puzzles.

