

# Amaze Your Brain *at Home!*

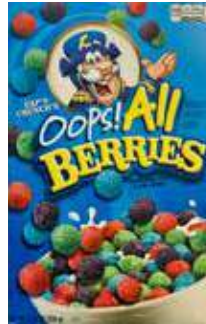
## EXPERIMENTS

BEST FOR  
18 months-  
4 years

### UPCYCLED PUZZLES

#### MATERIALS

- An empty box or bag (ex: cereal box, chip bag: you want to choose something your children can easily recognize)
- Scissors



#### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cut the box into pieces (3-6 pieces for toddlers, 6-20 pieces for 3-4 year olds).
2. Give the puzzle to children to put back together.
3. For extra support, take a picture of the box before cutting to use as a guide.

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING?

You've probably heard the phrase, "reduce, reuse, recycle." When we reduce, we are cutting back on the amount of trash we make. When we reuse, we find a new use for trash instead of throwing it away. When we recycle, we turn old products into new materials, so they can be made into something else.

Which of the three R's are we practicing? Reuse. Instead of throwing away our snack packages when we are finished eating, we are able to use them as a toy for our entertainment.

Puzzles are a fantastic learning opportunity for children. They help develop fine motor, problem solving, and cognitive skills. Using environmental print for these puzzles adds a literacy component to play as well.



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