

## **Lesson 90 - I Can't Do It**

### **Aim**

- \* To learn to keep trying until you succeed

### **Materials**

- \* *I Can't Do It*, by V. Gilbert Beers, from The Preschoolers Family Story Book
- \* Poem - Try, Try Again
- \* Jigsaw puzzles, lego pieces
- \* Picture to colour

### **Lesson Outline**

1. Introduction
2. Story & Discussion
3. Activities - colour a picture, jigsaw puzzle, lego construction, challenge games, poem
4. Review the aim
5. Prayer

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### **1) Introduction**

What toys do you have where you join pieces together?

Lego? Magnets? Brio wooden pieces? Jigsaw pieces?

Do you like making things? What have you made? Are they easy to do? Are they hard?

Today's story is about a boy who made something out of jigsaw pieces. What jigsaws do you have at home? How many pieces are there?

### **2) Story & Discussion**

A boy called Brian tries to make a jigsaw puzzle, but he thinks it's too hard and he wants to give up. His father helps him and together they succeed.

*What did Brian say he couldn't do?*

*How did Father help him to put the puzzle together?*

*What do you think Brian learned when Father helped him?*

*What things are hard for you to do?*

*Do you feel like giving up sometimes?*

*What do you feel like when you finish and succeed?*

*What can you do so you can succeed? - try try again until you succeed, ask for help, take a break*

### **3) Activities**

- \* Colour a picture from the story
- \* Complete a jigsaw puzzle - Don't give up. Keep trying until it is finished. Help each other.

\* Build something using lego. Example: a house, a tower.

\* Set a challenge

- stand on one leg for 30 seconds
- Hold out your arms in a straight line for as long as possible
- Open and close your hands many times

\* Listen to the poem *Try, Try Again*. Children can repeat the chorus in unison as the teacher reads

### **Try, Try Again**

'Tis a lesson you should heed,  
Try, try again;  
If at first you don't succeed,  
Try, try again;  
Then your courage should appear,  
For, if you will persevere,  
You will conquer, never fear;  
Try, try again.

### **4) Review the lesson aim**

\* To learn to keep trying until you succeed

### **5) Prayer**

# I Can't Do It

by Gilbert Beers



"I can't do it," Brian whimpered. Brian wanted to put a wooden jigsaw puzzle together. But the puzzle didn't go together the way he thought it should. "I just can't do it," he whimpered again.



"Let me watch how you do it," said Father. "Perhaps I can help." So Brian picked up a piece of wooden puzzle. It fit in the right place. But the second piece did not fit where he thought it should go.

"See," he said. "I can't do it," Brian even kicked his feet in a little bit of anger.



"Try it again," said Father. "I think I see the problem." Brian picked up the first piece of the puzzle. It was easy. It fit in the right place. But the second piece did not fit where Brian thought it should go.

"See," said Brian. "I told you that I can't do it."



"I see what's wrong," said Father. "You can do it, but the puzzle can't do it." Brian looked surprised.

"What do you mean?" Brian asked.





"Let me show you," said Father. He picked up the first piece of the puzzle. He put it in the same place Brian had put it. "That one is easy," said Father. "Now let's put the second piece where you put it." Father picked up the second piece of the puzzle. He put it in the same place that Brian had put it. Of course it did not fit.



"That's not the right place for that piece," said Brian.

"I know," said Father. "But that piece is stubborn. It just won't go where it should. Ok, puzzle, make that piece go where it should." Father did not even touch the piece of the puzzle. "Go on," Father said to the piece of the puzzle. "Go where you should."



Brian laughed. "The piece of the puzzle won't go by itself," he said. "We have to move it to other places until it fits."

"Really?" said Father. "Would you like to show me?"

Brian moved the piece of the puzzle here. He moved it there. Suddenly it fit in just the right place.



"Do you think the third piece would fit that easily?" Father asked.

"Of course," said Brian. "Watch." Brian picked up the third piece. He moved it there. He kept moving it until it fit where it should.



Father smiled. "I think Brian learned something important from this puzzle," he said.

"I think so too," said Brian. "I learned that puzzle pieces won't put themselves in the right places. I learned that I have to keep trying until something works."



"Thank You, God, for helping Brian learn something very important," Father whispered. Did you learn something important too?"

# I Can Do It

