Puzzling over RiP by Ian Carr

■■■ I have an extensive background in industrial and fine arts, and in my current work I teach adult learners in workplace settings. I wanted to produce a wild card that would be visual, thought-provoking and highly usable. I first discussed RiP with my colleagues in Workplace Education Prince Edward Island (PEI) and reviewed some of the current literature. As I read, I became aware that I was trying to piece together my understanding of the field. This idea of "pieces" translated into a concept that seemed to fit together within the overall scheme of RiP. The idea of the jigsaw puzzle was born.

The puzzle distilled some of my thinking about the field. I had identified 16 topics from my research and translated them into images. These appear as bas relief shapes on the surface of each puzzle piece. My wild card also includes a short one-line text interpretation of each image.

The wooden puzzle was conceived to promote discussion, and was created for a long and productive life. In workshop settings, practitioners could develop and create their own temporary puzzles with standard or custom-size papers in a variety of colours. They could create their images using pastels, paints, markers, coloured pencils, modelling compounds such as playdough or other art supplies. Perhaps digital photographs could be taken of all the research-in-practice puzzles. ■

IAN CARR is a literacy practitioner from Prince Edward Island. He produced this puzzle for the national framework project, *Focused on Practice*. To read the full description of each piece of the puzzle, go to www.literacyjournal.ca, click on Crazy Wisdom, choose Wild Cards, then Prince Edward Island.

RiP Piece by Piece

Sense of value
The sense an individual has about the value of their experiences.

Time
The time involved with research.

Work
The pencil signifies the academic aspect of research, the hammer the idea that it is important to keep "hammering" away at an idea, and they both signify the idea of the "tools" of the trade.