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Cut-Apart Proofs: a hands-on activity in varied contexts. Preliminary report.

In this hands-on session, we present several examples of “cut-apart proofs” – jigsaw puzzle-like small group activities that introduce and emphasize the importance of logical structure in a mathematical proof. A selection of proof examples reinforcing essential definitions will be drawn from calculus, discrete math, abstract algebra, and topology. We will also include ideas to provide differentiated levels of challenge within the same activity and ways to use these activities at various stages in the learning process. (Received September 20, 2016)