Puzzle - Kiwi Bird

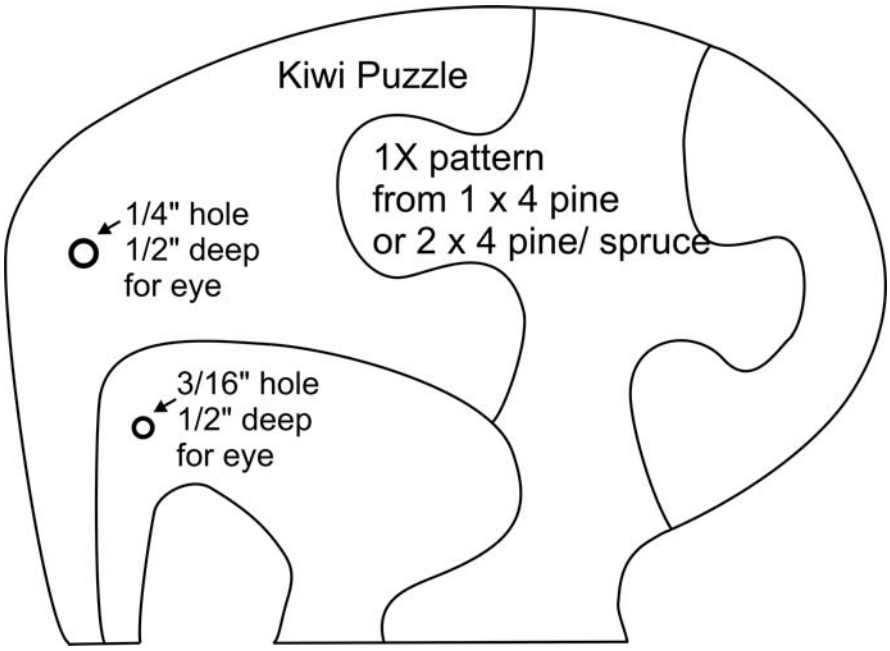
I saw this wood puzzle in New Zealand, the home of the Kiwi birds. This puzzle takes lots of shop time, but can be a beautiful project.

Materials needed:

1. 5" - 2" x 4" spruce/fir, get the softest, clear grained wood you can find.
2. Brown, red, yellow and green shoe wax polish, white rags, sandpaper (120 - 150 grit).

Before the meeting:

1. Photocopy 1X figure below and trace pattern over carbon paper onto 2 x 4.
2. Use a 1/8" blade on a band saw to cut out the shape of the kiwi and chick from a 1 x 4 block (or a 2 x 4 block, but 2 x 4 stock takes more time to cut).
3. Sand well on a belt sander.
4. Trace puzzle pieces onto kiwi.
5. Drill 1/4" hole about 1/2" deep for kiwi mother's eyes on each side of block. Older boys could drill the holes, if you have portable drill press at the meeting.
6. Cut puzzle parts using a band saw with a 1/8" blade.
7. Be sure to keep all the parts of each puzzle in a plastic baggie because they will not be interchangeable due to variations in your cutting out the puzzle pieces!.

Assembly at the meeting:

1. Have boys lightly sand their puzzle parts.
2. Stain each of the puzzle parts using red, yellow, brown and green shoe wax polish. (Be sure to have several white rags).
3. Buff each part to remove excess shoe polish.
4. Put all their puzzle parts in a plastic baggie before they go home.