

Communication Practice



Teachers Information:

This interactive activity will exercise the students' communication skills.

Materials:

- grid paper
- boxes of crayons
- dividers (optional)

Procedure:

- Arrange the students into pairs throughout the classroom.
- Give each team a piece of grid paper and a box of crayons.
- Have team members either sit back to back or place a divider between them.
- Have one team member, using the crayons, color a design on his/her grid paper. He/she must use 20 squares and every colored square must be touching at least one other colored square.
- Once that team member is finished making the design, he/she should pass the box of crayons to their partner, but does not let his/her see the design.
- Still sitting back to back or with a divider between team members, the first partner must describe to the second partner exactly how to duplicate the design on the grid paper. He/she has a 3-minute time period in which to do this. It is important that this activity be timed.
- At the end of 3 minutes, the second team member's design is checked to see how closely it matches the first team members. Each square that is colored properly and is in the correct location is worth 1 point. A perfect score is 20. (Remember, this requires teamwork. The better the communication, the better each partner's score!)

This activity can be repeated several times using a new design each time.



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Post Activity Questions:

1) What was your team's score?

2) How could the directions be improved to increase the team's score?

3) How does this activity demonstrate good communication skills?

4) Why are good communication skills so important to a space mission?

