

TEACHER GUIDELINES

2. TRAFFIC JAM

OBJECTIVE: Develops problem solving, role allocation (leader/follower — recognition of the value of each), communication and persistence.

In this activity the participants who are divided into 2 groups of at least 4, exchange places on a line of squares that has one more place than the number of people in both groups.

Set Up

The squares can be defined by chalk, masking tape or scrap paper and must be laid down in a straight line, ensuring that there is one more place than the total number of participants. The squares should be an easy step from each other.



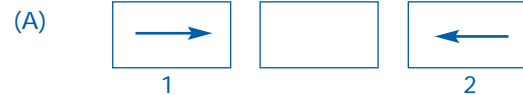
Procedure

One group stands on the places to the left of the middle square. The other group stand to the right. Both groups face the middle unoccupied square. Using the moves outlined below, the participants on the left side must end up on the places on the right side, and vice versa.

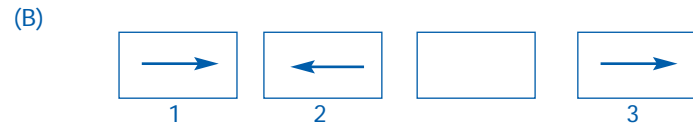
Rules

- A participant may only move forward.
- A participant may move forward one space into an empty space.
- A participant may move forward around one person into an empty space.

Thus



Here either 1 or 2 may move into the space



Here 1 may move into the empty space

- Only one person moves at a time.
- Only one person may be on a square at a time.
- A participant may walk on the ground to get from one square to another. The problem is not staying off the ground while moving from square to square, but the sequence in which people move.

As the group succeed in completing the task it may be discovered that one person giving the commands is the most effective way of solving the 'traffic jam'. Ask the group to repeat the task a number of times. A leader should emerge who gives instruction, while the others follow his / her directions.

Review: Teamwork card and discuss outcomes.

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