



Engaging and educational activities for all kids and their families that can be done in the comfort of your own home!

Adventure awaits! The Adventure curriculum is developed for youth in grades 3-5 to explore their Sparks, learn new skills, and build strong relationships. Here is an activity from our Adventure level curriculum book that we encourage all families to try out!

Communication Challenge

Youth play a game where they must direct their blindfolded partners across a “minefield” by practicing effective communication.

Rules

1. Explain to youth that the goal of the game is for the blindfolded person to get from one side of the field to the other without touching any of the mines. They can do this by listening to instructions given to them by their un-blindfolded partner. Emphasize that safety is the most important part of the game – they must move slowly and be cautious of other players.
2. Partner Up: Have youth find a partner and decide who will be blindfolded first.
3. Plan: Allow participants time to plan a strategy and decide on their communication commands.
4. Play: Blindfolded participants must make their way across the field without stepping on any of the objects. No more than four participants should be on the playing field at once. Partners can stand on the outside of the field and give instructions. If a participant steps on a mine, they can either go back to the start or wait 10 seconds before continuing.
5. Discuss: Before partners switch, encourage youth to think about what commands worked and how they can improve upon their communication for the next round.
6. Challenge: Once youth have mastered their communication skills, try playing again in groups of three. One player is blindfolded, one player can see the field but not speak, and the other can speak but not see the field. The blindfolded participant is in the field while the other two face each other. The player who can see but not speak tries to non-verbally communicate where the blindfolded player should move to the person facing away from the field. The player who can speak but not see relays this information to the blindfolded player.

Thrive it up!

Social Skills: Emphasize the importance of verbal and non-verbal communication to make this game a success. Build on the skills practiced in earlier activities and encourage youth to think about how they can best communicate to their partners.

Conflict Resolution: Frustration is bound to happen during this game. Encourage youth to talk through things without escalating to yelling, name-calling, and conflict. Youth should practice working through disagreements with respect for oneself and others.

Growth Mindset: This activity may be challenging for youth at first and groups may fail a few times. Encourage youth to practice new strategies, learn from their mistakes, and try again.

Reflection

What? What was your strategy for getting your partner across safely? What worked? What didn't work? How did your communication improve?

So what? How much did you trust your partner at the start? How much did you trust them by the end? Why was communication a big part of this game? Did the same communication strategy work for you as it did for your partner? Why or why not?

Now what? How can we be better verbal and non-verbal communicators outside of Camp Fire?