

Shrinking spaces - Collaboration

EXPLANATION:

A team that works well together is more effective, more productive, and more successful. As a space shrinks the students will need to find a way for the group to occupy the space. Team members will need strategy and creativity to save themselves!

YEAR LEVELS: Years 7–10

STUDENT GROUPING: Group sizing will depend on the size of the space – bigger groups require more negotiations and strategy setting!

ACTIVITY LENGTH: 30 mins approx.

LINK TO CURRICULUM:

This activity supports the development of 21st century skills include critical thinking, creative thinking, communication, collaboration and teamwork, personal and social skills, and information and communication technologies (ICT) skills. In particular: problem-solving; reasoning; generating and applying new ideas; relating to others (interacting with others); participating and contributing.

Health and Physical Education: Sequence of content F–10

Strand: Movement and physical activity learning through movement

- Teamwork and leadership
- Critical and creative thinking in movement
- Ethical behaviour in movement settings.

See also Personal and Social Capability learning continuum sub elements:

- Communicate effectively
- Understand themselves as learners
- Work collaboratively.

SCOPE OF TASK:

This game requires a good deal of strategy in addition to teamwork!

1. Arrange students in groups of approx. 6 – or allow to self-select. Larger sized groups require greater negotiation and strategy skills.
2. Share the objectives of the challenge with the students:
 - Each team will be allocated a set, roped, floor space in which the team must fit
 - This space will be reduced at intervals
 - Each time the space is reduced the teams will be given a set time to strategise and determine how they will fit into their smaller spaces (time determined by the teacher)
 - If a group fails to stay within the confines of the boundary, that group is out of the challenge
 - The group that stays within the smallest space is the winning team.
3. Before the challenge begins ask the students questions to assist them to think about how to approach the challenge. What strategies do you think you will need to win the challenge? Consider the issues that require collaboration:
 - Physical ability and space
 - Negotiation skills
 - Critical thinking
 - Creativity
 - Does the team need a leader to make decisions?
 - Should leaders be changed each round?
4. Assemble the teams in the various spaces and commence the challenge.
5. Each round – reduce the space, give time for strategising then make the challenge.
6. Once a winning team has been determined, debrief:
 - What strategies did the winning team employ?
 - Why do they believe they were successful?
 - Did other teams use similar ideas/strategies?
 - What collaboration skills were the most useful?
7. Ask the students to reflect on what other activities in life require collaboration?



RESOURCES:

- Items that can create a boundary. For example: rope, carpet squares, hula-hoops.