



BACK-TO-BACK DRAWING COMMUNICATION ACTIVITY

TIME REQUIRED: 20 minutes

SUPPLIES: Drawing paper & pencils

GROUP SIZE: Any size group in teams of two

SKILLS BUILDING: Collaboration, Communication & Creativity

INSTRUCTIONS

Divide students into groups of two. Have each pair sit back-to-back, with paper in front of them. One student will be labeled "Student A," the other "Student B."

PART 1

Instruct every "Student A" to spend two minutes drawing something on their paper. Partners may not look or talk to each other during this part of the activity. At the end of the allotted time, instruct every "Student A" to stop drawing.

Now, "Student A" must give a clear description of their drawing to their partner. "Student B" must use the oral instructions to try to re-create their partner's drawing. Allow five minutes for this step. Partners should remain back-to-back during this part of the activity. At the end of the allotted time, instruct every "Student B" to stop drawing. Allow a few minutes for partners to show each other their drawings and discuss the difficulties or successes experienced.

PART 2

Instruct partners to resume their back-to-back positions. Provide each student with a clean sheet of drawing paper. In part two of the activity, "Student B" is now charged with drawing something on their paper. Give two minutes to complete this task. At the end of the allotted time, instruct every "Student B" to stop drawing.

With the pairs seated back-to-back, instruct every "Student A" to reproduce their partner's drawing. Information about the drawing can only be obtained by asking "Student B" yes or no questions. Give students five minutes to complete this part of the activity. When time is up, have partners compare their drawings and discuss the difficulties or successes experienced.

DEBRIEFING QUESTIONS

1. Which exercise was more difficult to complete and why?
2. What did the activity showcase about effective communication strategies?

SOURCE: Ford, R. (2012, May 10). Drawing Lesson Improves Communication Skills. Retrieved from educationworld.com