



Blind Polygon

Developed in the field by educators affiliated with NSRF.

Materials: Blindfolds and Rope (3 feet per person in group)

Task: Once blindfolded, group members must find a rope, have each person connect on the rope, and form a geometric shape.

Rules:

1. Everyone is to remain blindfolded throughout the activity.
2. Everyone needs to hold onto the rope at all times.

Facilitation:

1. Invite everyone to stand in a circle and to put on a blindfold. 2. Once everyone is blindfolded, explain that the purpose of the activity is for the group to find the rope and then make the shape of a square.
3. Ask the group to let you know when they believe that a square has been formed. If they don't indicate this after a while, then ask them if they think they have formed a square. If they indicate "no", then let them continue even if they have a square.
4. If they say "yes" they have formed a square, then invite them to take off their blindfolds and see the shape they have made.
5. After a few minutes of informal discussion, let them know that they have one minute to plan how they will create the next shape that you give them.
6. After the minute is up, ask them to put their blindfolds on again.
7. Give them another shape to make (rectangle, triangle, pentagon, circle)

Processing of Experience:

What were some of the challenges you faced in this experience? How would you describe your communication as a group? How did your communication change over time and how did this impact upon you and the work of the team?

Were any people or ideas not listened to? How might this have impacted upon your group and your efforts to solve the problem? Did anyone emerge as a leader during this activity? What did they do to provide leadership in the group? How did your group planning impact upon your experience and success during the second challenge? What connections do you see between this experience and your work with others? What lessons/insights might we take with us?