

## **ACTIVITIES**

### **1. Classroom party**

Around Halloween or Christmas, you could get your students to cook and decorate. They have to organize a classroom party. They are responsible for decorations, for the food, and for the games. Divide your students into 3 groups. They have to work in teams to create the best classroom party ever: One team designs the Halloween or Christmas food and buffet, one team does the craftwork for decorations, and one team prepares the classroom games that will be played that day. They become true event-planners.

### **2. Blanket switch**

Divide your classroom into 3 teams. Each team stands on a blanket, leaving about a quarter of the blanket space. Now, the three teams have to turn over the blanket without leaving it. This means they have to work together to end up standing on the other side of the blanket.

### **3. Movie time!**

Create a class movie. It's a big project, so students will have to work together closely. Again, this team building activity for students requires them to split up in groups. Here's what needs to be done:

- Write a synopsis. What's the classroom story about? Let all your students write a synopsis and vote for the best one.
- Divide the character roles
- Get the clothing and costumes together
- Prepare the scenes
- Film the scenes
- Put together and edit the scenes
- Organize a movie night.

Plenty to do for all the students in your classroom. It's the perfect team building exercise that teaches students to work together and be creative.

### **4. Obstacle run**

Use your benches, chairs, and dustbins as obstacles in your classroom. Create a real maze full of "roadblocks". Divide your students into small groups of 2. One is blindfolded and the other guides the blindfolded students through all the obstacles. This activity is based upon one's trust in another. If you want to spice things up, you could let 2 or 3 groups race each other through

the obstacles. The fastest one through wins. Be careful though, it's still important to guide the blindfolded student through the obstacles without any scratch.

## **5. Minefield**

Define a square area in your classroom. You can use tape for this. Now, place plastic cones or cups everywhere in the square area. This now represents a minefield.

Again, such as in the activity above, split up students in groups of two. One is blindfolded, the other gives instructions. The blindfolded students have to cross the minefield without touching or knocking down the plastic cups. The other students give accurate commands so the blindfolded students can cross the minefield without blowing up a "mine".

## **6. Look into my eyes**

Have your students take turns staring into each other's eyes for 60 seconds. This trust activity might frighten students a bit as gazing in each other's eyes is not easy. But, not only will they become better at maintaining eye contact, they should connect with one another on some level.

## **7. Falling trees**

Students stand in a close circle with one student in the middle. That student in the middle is a tree, so he has to make his body stiff. Now, that student has to fall from the middle towards a person in the middle. That person has to catch the tree and push it to another side of the circle. Of course, the tree may not fall.

## **8. Blind artist**

The students can't see each other. One student gets a drawing you have prepared earlier. Ideally, the drawing should be something relevant to what you are teaching.

The student holding the drawing needs to give good instructions to the other student. The other student needs to draw it without being able to see the original picture. If you want to spice up the classroom game, you can put a variety of conditions to it, such as 'no asking questions', 'must draw with your non-writing hand', etc. Aren't you curious about the results?

When you use this team building energizer as a revision activity, you let the pair explain to the rest of the class what the drawing is about.