

Buddy Communication Game

Directions

Careful listening and asking questions will develop student communication skills

Part 1

- Students are paired, one is “A” and one is “B”. Let students choose.
- Each student their letter in the top corner of their paper
- Students sit back-to-back in desks, with the blank sheet of paper and a pencil on the desk.
- Teacher now instructs all the “A’s “ to spend two minutes drawing something on their paper (No artistic talent required, stick drawings/figures are OK.)
- Partners are reminded NOT to look at or talk to each other during this part of activity
- “B’s” remain seated. “A’s” put down their pencils at the end of the two minutes as signaled by teacher
- “B’s” are to prepare to *listen only* to partner’s instructions, and draw what they hear
- “A” students now give a clear description of their drawing to their “B” partner.
- Now each B will use the instructions she/he hears to re-create his partner’s drawing.
- “B’s” can only listen and draw; **no** talking or asking questions!
- 5 minutes are allowed for this activity, then B is to put down the pencil.
- Teacher gives partners a few minutes to show each other the drawings and discuss the results

Part 2

- Teacher asks the partners to return to their back-to-back positions
- Each student is given another blank sheet of paper
- This part is different!
- “B’s” spend 3 minutes drawing on their papers, using the entire 3 minutes for drawing before putting down the pencils at teacher signal.
- Instruct all “A’s” to prepare to draw. The ONLY way they can get information from “B” for drawing is by asking questions that have yes or no answers only.
- 5 Minutes are given to complete this part of the activity.
- After the 5 minutes, partners compare their drawings as before.

De-brief: Teacher asks:

- ✓ *What were the challenges in the activity?*
- ✓ *Which part was more difficult? Why?*
- ✓ *What was easy, or what were your successes?*
- ✓ *What did you learn about the need for effective communication?*