

Session 3 -- Coded Communication Exercise

Instructions to Teams:

- Devise a secret coded (non-spoken, non-written) communication system for your team which enables a very simple piece of information - a single digit number between 0-9 - to be passed throughout the whole group/team - person to person ideally - so that everyone knows the number.
- The winning team is the first to successfully convey the number to all team members.
- The number must be conveyed using non-verbal and secret signals - it cannot be spoken, mouthed, written, signaled by holding up a number of fingers, or "tapped" using fingers or feet, etc.
- Facial expressions and eye contact are likely to be significant in non-verbal code systems developed, although teams will devise other methods.
- Whether to allow or mention touching - for example secret hand-squeezing, which teams might think to try - is at the discretion of the facilitator.
- The secret code aspect is important, if the game is played competitively and teams are given the same number to convey.
- Instruct people to write down the number after all teams have completed the round, as proof of successful communication.
- The team leader must raise his/her hand to signal to the facilitator when group/team members have received the number correctly. This potentially requires another team coded signal - to confirm successful understanding - which is a matter for the teams to decide.
- **No speaking is allowed while the game is in progress.**
- After devising and practicing the code the team leaders then return to their starting positions and await the facilitator's signal to start the game, at which the number must be communicated to all team members - **using the non-verbal secret code - person to person.**
- Teams stand in a line facing the back of the room and the back of the person in front of them. At the start signal, the team lead taps the first person on the shoulder who turns and receives the communication. Once the communication is understood, the receiver turns around and taps the next person to turn around and receive the communication. This process is repeated until the last person receives the communication and signals the team lead that all team members have received the number.
- The team lead signals the instructor once assured all team members have the correct number.

This workforce solution was funded by a grant awarded by the U.S Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The solution was created by the grantee and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the U.S Department of Labor. The Department of Labor makes no guarantees, warranties, or assurances of any kind, express or implied, with respect to such information, including any information on linked sites and including, but not limited to, accuracy of the information or its completeness, timeliness, usefulness, adequacy, continued availability, or ownership.



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License. It is attributed to Ohio TechNet, HHW Ohio and the Center for Energy Workforce Development (CEWD). To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>.