

All Aboard

“All Aboard” is a problem-solving activity that is suited well to a class-size group.

Materials

You will need one large tarp big enough so that your entire group can easily stand on it.

Procedure

Start by laying the tarp on the floor. Instruct the group to put both their feet on the tarp at the same time. After they are all on the tarp, ask them to step off. Fold the tarp in half. Ask the group to put both their feet on the tarp. After they are all on the tarp, ask them to step off. Fold the tarp in half again. Repeat the procedure until the tarp is about three feet square.

By the time the tarp is very small, someone in the group usually figures out that you did not say they could not touch the ground and they figure out that they can all sit or lay on the ground on a circle putting their feet in the middle over the tarp.

This provides a good opportunity to not only debrief the group problem-solving process, but to talk about rules we put on ourselves and how limiting that can be for our success.

Alternate Procedure

Follow the same basic procedure except tell the group they may not touch the floor or furniture, walls, etc. **Note:** Do not fold the tarp any smaller than the group can handle and still be safe.