

Unequal Resources Activity

GOALS

- 1) To provide an opportunity to experience competition when resources have been distributed unequally.
- 2) To observe processes, interactions and feelings present during such competition.

OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of activity, participants will be able to:

- 1) Be more sensitive to interaction between disadvantaged groups and those with more power or resources.
- 2) Recognize their personal attitudes towards the distribution of resources in a small group discussion.

PROCEDURE

1) Before beginning the exercise, the facilitators must divide the following materials into four separate large envelopes - one envelope for each of four (4) groups:

Group 1: scissors, paper clips, two pencils, two 4" squares of red paper, two 4" squares of lavender paper, and a set of instructions (see attached).

Group 2: scissors, glue, 8 1/2x11" sheets of paper (two blue, two lavender, two gold), Spanish dictionary, and a set of instructions (see attached).

Group 3: two markers, 8 1/2x11" sheets of paper (two green, two lavender, two gold) and a set of instructions (see attached).

Group 4: 8 1/2x11" sheets of paper (one each: green, gold, blue, red and lavender) and a set of instructions (see attached). {Make sure this group has male member.}

Group 5: scissors, one pencil, two 4" squares of red paper, two 4" squares of green paper, and a set of instructions (see attached).

Group 6: paper clips, two 6" squares of white paper, one 4" squares of lavender paper, and a set of instructions (see attached).

Group 7: a ruler, 8 1/2x11" sheets of paper (two green, one lavender, one gold) and a set of instructions (see attached).

Group 8: one sheet each of green, lavender, gold, white, blue and yellow 8 1/2 x 11 paper crumpled, broken scissors, and a set of instructions (see attached).

2) The facilitators arrange the participants into four groups of one to ten people. If many people are participating in the activity, clusters containing four groups of one to four can be formed. If more than one cluster of four groups is used, the facilitators may add the dimension of competition between as well as within clusters. *[If desired, the facilitators may ask that several participants volunteer to be process observers.]*

3) Groups are located in areas that are far enough away from each other so that the bargaining position (i.e. resources and progress) of the other groups cannot be easily

seen. The facilitators distribute the envelopes of materials and a task (instruction) sheet to each group. Tasks (instructions) are on page 3.

4) The facilitator asks the groups **not** to open their materials **until they are told to begin the task**. Explain that all instructions are contained within the envelopes. All of the groups to complete the task in the time allotted win. Instruct participants to open the envelopes and begin.

5) The facilitators stop the process when time is up. Keep a mental note of who finished second and third just in case the first group did not accomplish the described task.

DEBRIEFING

Once time is called to end the activity in small groups, everyone re-convenes as a large group to process as many of the following questions as time permits:

1) How did you feel during this exercise? How did it feel when someone wouldn't or couldn't share with you during this activity?

2) How did you become aware that not everyone had the same advantages when it came to competing for the prize? How did that make you feel?

3) What sort of strategies did you or your group employ to get the tools you needed?

4) How did the winners feel as they were completing the tasks? Were they aware of any advantages they had over others?

5) How does this activity relate to sexuality education?

6) What are some examples in which your LEARNERS have been affected by unequal resources or capacities?

7) What are some examples in which YOU or your colleagues have been affected by this?

8) Who is familiar with the term "social determinants of health"? What does this mean to you? What does this mean in relation to sexuality education? [Facilitators then provide a definition if needed and encourage people to incorporate this term in their professional work when appropriate, and of course help define it for colleagues as well].

9) What are some strategies you use (or have used in the past) to address unequal resources?

10) Looking ahead, can you identify any actions you could try taking to address unequal resources in the communities where you work?

INSTRUCTIONS – Group 1

Greetings;

Your goal is to complete the following tasks:

- Make a 3" x 3" square of lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 2" rectangle of gold paper
- Make a four-link paper chain, each link in a different color
- Make a T-shaped piece that measures 3" horizontally and 5" vertically In green and lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 4" flag, in any three colors

Each group has different materials, but must complete the same tasks. You will have a specific amount of time to complete this task. All groups that successfully complete the task within this time will win. Groups may bargain with other groups for the use of materials and tools to complete the tasks on any mutually agreeable basis. Only one person may represent your group with any external negotiations.

Good luck.

INSTRUCTIONS – Group 2

Greetings;

Your goal is to complete the following tasks:

- Make a 3" x 3" square of lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 2" rectangle of gold paper
- Make a four-link paper chain, each link in a different color
- Make a T-shaped piece that measures 3" horizontally and 5" vertically in green and lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 4" flag, in any three colors

Each group has different materials, but must complete the same tasks. You will have a specific amount of time to complete this task. All groups that successfully complete the task within this time will win. Groups may bargain with other groups for the use of materials and tools to complete the tasks on any mutually agreeable basis. Only one person may represent your group with any external negotiations. **That person can only speak Spanish when negotiating.**

Good luck.

INSTRUCTIONS – Group 3

Greetings;

Your goal is to complete the following tasks:

- Make a 3" x 3" square of lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 2" rectangle of gold paper
- Make a four-link paper chain, each link in a different color
- Make a T-shaped piece that measures 3" horizontally and 5" vertically In green and lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 4" flag, in any three colors

Each group has different materials, but must complete the same tasks. You will have a specific amount of time to complete this task. All groups that successfully complete the task within this time will win. Groups may bargain with other groups for the use of materials and tools to complete the tasks on any mutually agreeable basis. Only one person may represent your group with any external negotiations.

Good luck.

INSTRUCTIONS – Group 4

Greetings;

Your goal is to complete the following tasks:

- Make a 3" x 3" square of lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 2" rectangle of gold paper
- Make a four-link paper chain, each link in a different color
- Make a T-shaped piece that measures 3" horizontally and 5" vertically in green and lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 4" flag, in any three colors

Each group has different materials, but must complete the same tasks. You will have a specific amount of time to complete this task. All groups that successfully complete the task within this time will win. Groups may bargain with other groups for the use of materials and tools to complete the tasks on any mutually agreeable basis. Only one person may represent your group with any external negotiations **and it must be a male.**

Good luck.

INSTRUCTIONS – Group 5

Greetings;

Your goal is to complete the following tasks:

- Make a 3" x 3" square of lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 2" rectangle of gold paper
- Make a four-link paper chain, each link in a different color
- Make a T-shaped piece that measures 3" horizontally and 5" vertically In green and lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 4" flag, in any three colors

Each group has different materials, but must complete the same tasks. You will have a specific amount of time to complete this task. All groups that successfully complete the task within this time will win. Groups may bargain with other groups for the use of materials and tools to complete the tasks on any mutually agreeable basis. Only one person may represent your group with any external negotiations.

Good luck.

INSTRUCTIONS – Group 6

Greetings;

Your goal is to complete the following tasks:

- Make a 3" x 3" square of lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 2" rectangle of gold paper
- Make a four-link paper chain, each link in a different color
- Make a T-shaped piece that measures 3" horizontally and 5" vertically in green and lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 4" flag, in any three colors

Each group has different materials, but must complete the same tasks. You will have a specific amount of time to complete this task. All groups that successfully complete the task within this time will win. Groups may bargain with other groups for the use of materials and tools to complete the tasks on any mutually agreeable basis. Only one person may represent your group with any external negotiations **however they may not use their hands when giving or receiving materials and they may not use an assistant.**

Good luck.

INSTRUCTIONS – Group 7

Greetings;

Your goal is to complete the following tasks:

- Make a 3" x 3" square of lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 2" rectangle of gold paper
- Make a four-link paper chain, each link in a different color
- Make a T-shaped piece that measures 3" horizontally and 5" vertically In green and lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 4" flag, in any three colors

Each group has different materials, but must complete the same tasks. You will have a specific amount of time to complete this task. All groups that successfully complete the task within this time will win. Groups may bargain with other groups for the use of materials and tools to complete the tasks on any mutually agreeable basis. Only one person may represent your group with any external negotiations.

Good luck.

INSTRUCTIONS – Group 8

Greetings;

Your goal is to complete the following tasks:

- Make a 3" x 3" square of lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 2" rectangle of gold paper
- Make a four-link paper chain, each link in a different color
- Make a T-shaped piece that measures 3" horizontally and 5" vertically in green and lavender paper
- Make a 4" x 4" flag, in any three colors

Each group has different materials, but must complete the same tasks. You will have a specific amount of time to complete this task. All groups that successfully complete the task within this time will win. Groups may bargain with other groups for the use of materials and tools to complete the tasks on any mutually agreeable basis. Only one person may represent your group with any external negotiations.

WARNING!

Use of scissors is likely to cause damage during this activity.

Handling colored paper is likely to cause paper cuts, bleeding, and infection

Use of glue or tape is ineffective and likely to cause long-term nerve damage.

Good luck.