# Relationship Skills

The ability to establish and maintain healthy and rewarding relationships with diverse individuals and groups. The ability to communicate clearly, listen well, cooperate with others, resist inappropriate social pressure, negotiate conflict constructively, and seek and offer help when needed.

- COMMUNICATION
- SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT
- RELATIONSHIP BUILDING
- TEAMWORK

#### **Card Pieces:**

This exercise is a good way to help participants develop more empathy, consider other perspectives, build their communication and negotiation skills.



- **1**. Cut each playing card into half diagonally, then in half diagonally again, so you have four triangular pieces for each card.
- **2**. Mix all the pieces together and put equal numbers of cards into as many envelopes as you have teams.
- **3**. Divide people up into teams of three or four. You need at least three teams. If you're short of people, teams of two will work just as well.
- **4**. Give each team an envelope of playing card pieces.
- **5**. Each team has three minutes to sort its pieces, determine which ones it needs to make complete cards, and develop a bargaining strategy.
- **6.** After three minutes, allow the teams to start bartering for pieces. People can barter on their own or collectively with their team. Give the teams eight minutes to barter.
- **7.** When the time is up, count each team's completed cards. Whichever team has the most cards wins the round.

#### Afterward, you can use these questions to guide discussion on the exercise:

- Which negotiation strategies worked? Which didn't?
- What could they have done better?
- What other skills, such as active listening or empathy, did they need to use?

## **Civic Responsibility:**

Well-rounded individuals have a civic responsibility to strengthen the community that they live in. Service learning can be into the classroom to build this critical social engagement skill. Focus on community service so that students learn how to interact with their community in a new way, such as beach cleanup or building a home for the less fortunate.

Have students identify and develop a plan to complete a community service project. This project can be done as a group or individually.





## **Just Like Me Game:**

This game is perfect for helping students learn about one another while having some fun. Here's how you play:

- 1. Have your students stand in a circle.
- 2. One at a time, students step forward and say a fact about themselves (e.g. I have one sister.).
- 3. If that statement is true for other students, they come forward one step and say "just like me!"
- 4. The next student steps forward and says his or her fact. Continue until all students have had a chance to go (and you could keep going, if you have time).

## **Scavenger Hunt:**

This team building game requires some preparation, it encourages students to work together: planning a strategy, divvying up tasks and communicating progress.

Divide the students into teams and set a time limit in which they have to find as many items as possible on a list you've provided.

You can make this more challenging by providing clues or riddles rather than the names of items.





## "Shark Tank":

Similar to the popular TV show where entrepreneurs pitch their ideas to a panel of investors, this team building activity can be used in the classroom to encourage creative thinking and develop time management, presentation and public speaking skills.

Each team of students comes up with a product, brand name, logo and marketing strategy, which is then presented to the 'panel.' Encourage feedback from the 'sharks,' or other students, in the class.