

Traffic Jam¹

Name: _____ Date: _____

Set Up

Split into two groups performing the same task at the same time.

Supplies

Depending on the class size, eleven 1'x1' squares (I typically use blue painting tape on the floor)

Objective

To have two groups of at least five members each exchange places on a line of squares that has one more place than the number of members in both groups. All members on one side of the center must end up in order on the other side.

Rules

Begin with both groups facing the middle, unoccupied square.

Using the following moves, the two groups attempt to exchange places:

- Any group member may move into an empty space in front of him
- Any group member may move around one of the group members from the other group into an empty space.
- Illegal moves include moving backwards, moving around a same group member (facing the same direction), moves which involve two members moving at the same time.

From the beginning set up:



...to the end result



Debriefing Questions

- What contributed to the successes and failures of each group?
- Did the group go through any of the four stages of group development? Explain.
- How would progress to the next stage have been advanced more quickly?
- What were obstacles for the group?
- What kinds of personalities came out as a result of the problem?
- What are some things about yourself that you think would be good to change when working with others in order to create better teamwork?
- What other observations do you have about the different group stages and how they were demonstrated?
- How will knowing about these four stages affect the way you work in groups in the future?

¹Rohnke, K & Butler, S. (1995). Quicksilver. Project Adventure, Inc.