

Activity 4:

Football field

A strategy game that promotes teamwork, decision making and leadership.

Description

Start by making sure the play area is clean and free of obstructions.

- Divide the students or athletes in small groups of 3-5 people. The selection of the groups should be done randomly.
- Give each group a flipchart paper and a pen.
- Explain and demonstrate that each group starts to draw a football pitch while following these three rules:
 - ◇ All participants in one group have to constantly touch the pen
 - ◇ The pen must always be in contact with the paper (in other words, they cannot take the pen off the paper and start at a different point)
 - ◇ The participants are not allowed to talk to each other during the drawing process.
- Give groups 30 seconds to develop strategies before starting.
- Give the “go” signal and have all groups start drawing the football field applying the aforementioned 3 rules

After all the teams have presented each other the drawings, you can also optionally expand the exercise by fostering a discussion about intercultural contact:

- Ask the participants to divide the football field they drew before into a negative (-) and a positive (+) half.
- Ask each group to discuss the negative aspects of sports when it comes to intercultural contact and write the keywords on the flipchart sheet. After 5 minutes, the same exercise is performed with the positive aspects.
- Each group presents their results.
- Provide a summary process on the key points on an open discussion.

Discussion questions

Reflect

What did you find most challenging about this game? Why? Which strategies did you choose to use for achieving the common goal? How did communication on your team improve during the game? Who took the lead and why?

Connect

What skills have you used in your life to communicate well with others when working towards achieving a goal? From your past experiences, why is cooperation and decision-making important within teams where more than one culture is represented?

Apply

Which competences do people need to interact with the members of their team? Why? What did you learn from your communication with people of different nationalities or cultures? Which are the positive and the negative key points on intercultural contact when it comes to sport that you will keep in mind?

Facilitation notes

Make sure that teams are working together to draw the football field and that players establish some ground rules of discussion.

Possible variations:

- Ask players to draw another field (e.g. volleyball, basketball)
- During the optional discussion, you can also ask participants to talk about the positive and negative aspects of stereotyping.

Number of Teachers or Coaches	1-2
Number of Students or Athletes	8+
Typical Age Group	12+
Time Needed	25 min
Space Needed	Classroom or playground
Materials Needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flipchart paper• Pens
Activity Objective	Capacity for teamwork, decision-making and leadership
Related Unit	Unit 3 and Unit 2
Related Learning Competences	Critical thinking, self-awareness and creativity