

AGES 6+ UNDERSTANDING OTHERS

# Building Castles<sup>9</sup>

### Key Learning

To promote inclusion.

#### **Goal Of The Game**

To work in groups to build a castle using paper while ignoring one member of the team.

#### **What You Need**

Equipment

- Paper (or index cards)
  - 10-12 per group

No. of players

• 6 or more

#### **See Opening Questions**

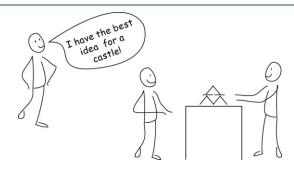
 What is a group that you enjoy being part of? (For example, a sports group or school club.) Why do you enjoy it?

#### How To Play

- 1. Divide the players into groups of 8-10.
- 2. Give each group 10 pieces of paper.
- 3. Ask for one volunteer from each group to step out of the room or move to an area where they cannot hear the group.
- 4. To the remaining group members explain and demonstrate that:
  - Each group must try to construct a castle that is as tall as possible using the pieces of paper.
  - Each group will discuss strategies of how they will accomplish this.
  - When the volunteer returns, the group will ignore everything that the volunteer attempts to tell them and turn their positions away from the volunteer.
- 5. Speak to the group of volunteers gathered outside the room or out of hearing distance.
- 6. Explain and demonstrate that:
  - The groups are beginning to discuss how to build castles with pieces of paper.
  - When the volunteers return to their groups each volunteer will tell the group that he or she has the best possible idea of how to accomplish this task.
- 7. Allow one minute for the "ignoring" experience, then stop the game to begin the discussion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Gibbs, J. (2000). *Tribes: A New Way of Learning and Being Together* (p. 317). Sausalito, CA: CenterSource Systems. NOTE: Permission to use granted by CenterSource Systems, LLC, publisher of *Tribes: A New Way of Learning and Being Together*, by Jeanne Gibbs, © *2000*, Windsor, CA, www.tribes.com.

## Building Castles continued



#### Watch For

- Are the players trying to ignore the volunteers?
- Are volunteers trying to offer their own ideas?

#### **Discussion**

#### Reflect

- Volunteers, what did you experience during this activity? How did it make you feel? Why?
- How did the rest of the group feel when they had to ignore the volunteers?

#### Connect

- Are there groups of people in your community who are ignored? How are they ignored?
- Why are some groups ignored?

#### **Apply**

 What are ways that you can make others feel included?

#### **◯** Variations

 Replace the activity with a sport such as football or volleyball in which one player doesn't get a chance to participate.

#### **≥**< Inclusion

Refer to pp. 14–18.