



Two to Tango

Activity 2

PURPOSE: To encourage students to consider the necessary elements of cooperation and suggest ways to work together more effectively. To facilitate a discussion on why communication is essential to cooperation.

TIME: 45 minutes

MATERIALS: A marker and large piece of paper for each pair of students in the class. Enough room for students to sit opposite one another with the paper and a drawing surface between them.

METHOD: Divide students into pairs and have them sit down facing their partners across a desk or other drawing surface. Tell them you'd like them to draw their ideas of some event or issue of importance to them. Ask them to think about what they would like to draw without telling anyone else. Distribute a marker to each pair of students and explain that there will be no talking during the activity. Explain that as a pair they are going to draw a picture. Both people are to hold onto the marker at all times. Ask them to draw their ideas.

Allow for about 15 minutes. Ask them to sign their names to the drawing.

Discuss:

- Was it difficult not to talk with your partner?
- Did you communicate in any way?
- Did each partner share equally in making the picture?
- How did you decide what to draw?
- Was there a leader? How did you know?
- When did you realize that you could draw something? How did it feel?
- What did you draw? Does it represent anything?
- Who signed first? How did you decide?

Ask students if they can think of other situations in which they have had to cooperate with others. Does it help to communicate what each person wants to do? Have there been times when they participated in a group, but never got to express their own opinions? How did they feel? Have they ever been in a situation where they couldn't communicate due to language barriers? What happened? Have students brainstorm ways to ensure that groups can cooperate effectively.

Adapted from A Disability Awareness Manual, Canadian Crossroads International – Toronto Committee, 1993



I WANT THE CULTURE OF ALL LANDS TO BE BLOWN ABOUT MY HOUSE AS FREELY AS POSSIBLE.

Mohandas Gandhi

