



VENTURING · BSA

Communication Module 1 - Blind Triangle

Learning Objectives At the end of this session, each participant should be able to:

- Have a greater appreciation for their sense of sight
- Demonstrate group problem-solving skills
- Understand the important role of communication in leadership

Preparation Create two small posters with communication quotes on them (see appendix F).

Before the Blind Triangle session, place the signs along two different trails away from the activity where they can be seen from the trail.

Materials Needed Blindfolds for each participant
Rope long enough for everyone to hold on to in a circle
Appendix F – Communication Quotes
Appendix A – Insurance Quotes

Introduction Do not tell the Venturers what the purpose of the activity is.

Tell them that they are going to do a fun activity.

Activity 1

Have crew members stand in a circle and everyone take hold of the rope with both hands.

Blindfold participants and ask them to make an equilateral triangle (equal angles and sides) shape with the rope.

They can communicate only by speaking to each other.

Observe the group dynamics during the activity.

Did someone emerge as the group leader?

Were others content to remain quiet and follow suggestions?

Did any disagreements emerge? Were they resolved?

After they feel they have made a triangle, remove the blindfolds and let them evaluate how they did.

Give them one minute (with their eyes open) to discuss what they could do to make a better triangle, and let them try again, beginning from a circle position.

Variations: Have the crew members make other shapes after successfully making the triangle.

Reflection

Assemble the crew in a comfortable setting, describe what a reflection is and share the rules. Ask the following:

What were some communication problems you faced?

Did anyone emerge as the leader in trying to solve the problem?

Why were you willing to follow this person?

How did things change when you were able to open your eyes and discuss the problem?

Activity 2

Read appendix A (Insurance Quotes). It will comically illustrate how we sometimes have a difficult time trying to communicate properly.

Tell participants that “golden nuggets of wisdom” (the two posters) are lurking in the woods and need to be found.

Divide the crew into two groups and instruct them to follow a trail where the posters can be found.

They have 10 minutes to find the “nuggets of wisdom,” sit down, discuss and reflect on it as a group, and report back to the teaching area with a group summary.

Appoint a spokesperson for each group who will lead the group in a reflection (see suggested reflection questions for each group in appendix F) and give a summary of what the group discussed.

Choose a spokesperson for each group who is not the natural leader.

Back at the teaching station, have each group leader show the poster, read the quote, and give a summary of the group’s reflection session.

Variations: Place food or snacks with the posters.

Create a short orienteering course to locate the posters.

End of Session