

Team Count

Participants will practice patience, listening, and self-awareness to accomplish a team goal together.

TIME	MATERIALS	TEAM STAGE
10-20 minutes	None	Forming, Storming, Norming

Learning & Development Outcomes

Participants will have to collaborate with each other to accomplish a common goal using patience, awareness and adaptability.

Outcomes are focused on developing *21st Century Skills* and the *National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Career Competencies*, including, but not limited to:

- Demonstrate commitment to learning as a lifelong process.
- Collaborate and cooperate effectively with teams.
- Demonstrate dependability (e.g., report consistently for work or meetings).
- Collaborate with others to achieve common goals.



Preparation & Logistics

Set up:

- First Round: Have all participants stand shoulder to shoulder in a circle.
- Second Round (adds a challenge): Have them stand in a line shoulder to shoulder.

Safety:

- Check all students to make sure they are comfortable standing close to each other.
- If you choose to use a variation, have a group discussion about it to have everyone's consent.

Additional Considerations:

- Set aside additional time for a debrief!
- [Click here to watch it live!](#)

Instructions

Summary

The group creates a line, shoulder to shoulder and have to achieve the goal together.

This activity is appropriate for all ages.

Step 1: Share the Rules

- Participants stand in a line or circle shoulder to shoulder. (Depending on comfortability, you can also have them sit anywhere close by.)
- If participants aren't shoulder to shoulder, clarify that they need to speak a little louder in case people can't hear who are farther away.

Step 2: Begin the Activity

- Starting with 1 person, the group has to count to 21 (or however many participants there are) without talking at the same time.
- Everyone can only speak once unless it is a small group, you can have people say two different numbers.

Step 3: Administering the Rules

- If 2 people speak at the same time, they have to start over.
- If someone is caught saying two numbers (that aren't next to each other), the group must start over.

How to end the activity

- Have people sit (if standing) in their place to debrief.



What is another challenge?

"Have participants stand in a circle but facing outwards so they cannot see each other's faces and body expressions."



Facilitators can adjust the number the group has to count up to depending on group size and time constraints.

Debrief Questions



These questions are a starting point to guide your debrief. Pick the ones that best match your group's experience and add or change questions as needed!

What

- What was the objective of the activity?
- How did you achieve success?

So What

- Why is it important to wait your turn?
- What can happen if multiple people want to talk at once or be the first for everything?

Now What

- What can we do to make sure people feel included?
- How can you work together to achieve a common goal when life gets challenging?

Adjustments for...

Large Group (25+)

- Participants can only say 1 number up to their "count".
- Consider splitting teams into 20 people so everyone can participate quicker.

Medium Group (10-25)

- Consider splitting teams into smaller groups and they can count to a higher number where everyone speaks two times. For example: *One person can say #4 and #17.*

Small Group (1-9)

- Have participants face away from each other, or stand in a line shoulder to shoulder and they have to count to a higher number.

Risk Level

- Verify everyone can hear one another or read lips depending on their location.

Online

- Have participants raise their hand, lean forward or turn their camera on when they decide they are going to speak.

Group has prior experience

- If the team successfully gets to 21 (or whichever number you decide), the person who says 21 gets to think of a new rule for the group. For example: *Every odd number you have to jump up and down when you say the number.*



Each adjustment is its own unique idea for how to facilitate this activity for different groups and situations! Choose any or all that work!