

Back to Back Coloring

Help your partner color in a drawing

TIME
20-30 minutes

MATERIALS
Back to Back Coloring worksheet,
markers

TEAM STAGE
Storming,
Norming, Performing

Learning & Development Outcomes

Participants will practice communicating and listening. They will be challenged to utilize verbal communication to instruct others to complete a task.

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

- Leveraging strengths of others to accomplish a common goal.
- Solving different kinds of non-familiar problems in both conventional and innovative ways.
- Being accountable for individual and team responsibilities and deliverables.
- Demonstrating dependability.



Preparation & Logistics

Set Up

- Color in a copy of the Back to Back Coloring worksheet.
- Ensure that participants have access to all of the colors of markers (or colored pencils, crayons, etc.) that you used when coloring the worksheet.

Safety

- Assure participants that there is no "failure" in this activity. It is understandable, and even expected, that their drawings will not look exactly like the prepared drawing. This does not mean that they failed at the activity.

Additional Considerations

- Set aside additional time for a debrief.

Instructions

Summary

Participants will work in pairs to color in a picture, ensuring that the right colors are used in the right areas.

To adjust this activity for younger participants, choose an easier image with fewer colors. For older participants, choose a more complex image with more colors.

Step 1: Share the rules

- Arrange pairs so that one partner (the explainer) can view the colored in worksheet and the other partner (the drawer) cannot.
- Give each drawer a blank worksheet and tell them that they are not allowed to turn around to look at the colored in worksheet.
- Tell the explainer that they cannot color on the worksheet, they can only tell their partner which colors to put on which parts of the worksheet.

Step 2: Color in the worksheet

- Allow time for the pairs to color in their worksheet.

How to end the activity

- The activity continues until a designated time has run out or all participants feel they have finished.
- Once the activity has concluded, allow participants to share their worksheet and compare it to the colored in worksheet.



Can the explainers point at the worksheet?

"Challenge participants to use words to tell their partner where to color rather than pointing at the worksheet."



All pairs will need the same colors of markers for this activity. Make sure there are multiples of each color, or set an expectation of how participants are to ask for and share markers.

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 easy/difficult for the explainers?
- What was easy/difficult for the drawers?

So What

- What did you learn about how you communicate in this activity?
- What did you learn from others in this activity?

Now What

- What will you continue to do in your communication/listening?
- What will you change or adjust about your communication/listening?

Adjustments for...

Large Group (25+)

- Consider using a screen to project the colored in worksheet so multiple participants can view it more easily.

Small Group (1-9)

- Prepare two versions of the worksheet (or use another image) so that each participant can perform both roles in the pair.

Risk Level

- To increase the risk level, prepare a very abstract image that is difficult to explain.

Group has prior experience

- Allow participants to color in the worksheet on their own first however they would like. Then, have them explain to their partner how to color in the worksheet to match theirs.

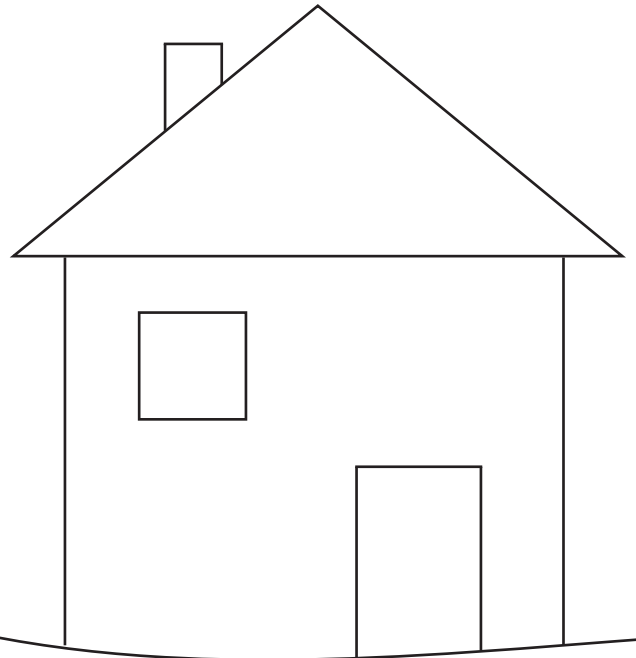
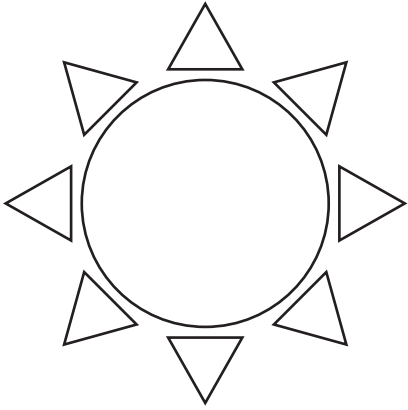
Online

- Send a picture of the colored in worksheet to each explainer. Then, put each pair in a breakout room and give them a dedicated amount of time to color in their copy of the worksheet.



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

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Worksheet for: Back to Back Coloring