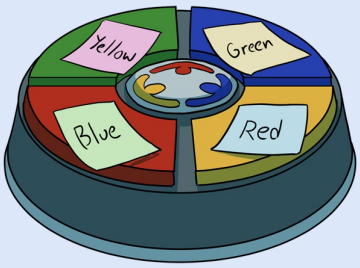
INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES



Simple Simon

Students must learn to override their instincts as they race to identify the paper with the correct color written on it rather than the color of the paper itself.

SIMPLE SIMON

Summary

This activity challenges learners to focus and adapt to conflicting information. It's an engaging way to encourage mental agility and teamwork, while reinforcing the need for adaptability. Simple Simon works well when learners are in periods of transition, such as new environments, new teams, or any situation that calls for building problem-solving skills.

Procedure

Prep

1. For each group of 4-6, place four sheets of colored paper on a table or wall: one blue, one red, one yellow, and one green.
2. On each sheet, write the name of a different color than the sheet itself. For example, write "blue" on the red paper, "red" on the green paper, etc.

Activity

1. Divide participants into teams of 4-6.
2. Instruct each team to designate someone to be the judge.
3. The facilitator calls out a sequence of color words (e.g., "yellow, green, red").
4. Team members take turns slapping the paper with the correctly written word—not the matching color of the paper.
5. The judge counts the number of correct slaps in a row, resetting the count when an incorrect paper is slapped.
6. The facilitator continues calling out sequences for one minute. The team that correctly follows the longest chain of correct slaps wins.