INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES



Hole in One

A quick activity where participants try to cut a hole in a single sheet of paper large enough to step through; they then debrief how creative thinking led to a solution.

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HOLE IN ONE

Summary

This activity is designed to highlight creative problem solving and “outside of the box” thinking by asking participants to question their assumptions. It works well as an icebreaker, a critical-thinking warm-up in classes, as a team-building challenge, or in any situation that may require innovative approaches. Reflective questions are attached to help participants connect the experience to how they approach complex tasks and opportunities in school, work, and everyday life.

Procedure

1. Give each participant a sheet of printer/computer paper and a pair of scissors.
2. Tell participants that they have 2 minutes to create an opening in the paper large enough for their entire body to pass through without tearing the paper during the attempt.
3. When time is up, invite volunteers to show how they were successful.
4. Show or explain a sample solution so that participants can see one possible way to approach the challenge.
5. (Optional) Use the attached Reflection Questions to lead a discussion about this activity.

Era, E. [@EvanEraTV]. (2023). How to fit your whole body thru a sheet of paper *CHALLENGE REVEALED [Video]. YouTube. https://youtube.com/shorts/6l54sTjWYj0?si=izxmpsw8m4wQ5VhU