

## Module 9 v Activity 30 v COOPERATION

Activity: Comic Cut-Ups

Materials Needed: Comic strips (five separate strips containing four cartoon panels each); card stock; colored construction paper; five envelopes for each participating team; one comic strip answer sheet for each team; a clock or timer.

Directions:

1. Obtain five separate comic strips containing four cartoon panels each. The comics should come from the same feature (e.g., "Peanuts" or "Garfield") but comprise five different versions. Paste the comic strip panels onto a sheet of paper and duplicate one copy on colored stock for each participating team; these will be used as answer sheets. Next, duplicate the comic strip sheet on card stock, one copy per team. Prepare the puzzle pieces by cutting each card stock sheet into twenty separate pieces (i.e., the five comic strips should have a total of twenty comic strip pieces). Keeping each set of twenty pieces together, mix up the pieces and randomly place four strip pieces in each of five envelopes, numbered 1 through 5; each team needs one complete set of envelopes and cards.
2. Instruct participants to form teams of five members each. Distribute a set of five envelopes to each group, giving one envelope to each person.
3. Explain that the purpose of the game is to form five different comic strips, containing four panels each, in proper sequence. During the activity participants are NOT allowed to talk; they must maintain complete silence. Players may give their puzzle piece to another player by handing it to the person they wish to receive it. A player may not point to a piece to indicate that he or she wants it, nor can a player put a piece into another person's puzzle. The object is for each team member to complete a four-panel comic strip, positioned in the appropriate sequence, in front of him or her. Teams will have fifteen minutes to complete the activity.

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4. Signal for the activity to begin, and note various group interactions. Indicate when the fifteen-minute time period is up, then distribute one copy of the comic strip answer sheet to each team to review its answers. Lead a group discussion about the game.
  - ◆ How well did your team accomplish the task?
  - ◆ How well did you as an individual feel about participating in this game?
  - ◆ What were your reactions to not being able to talk?
  - ◆ Did everyone follow the rules? Why?
  - ◆ Did you feel a sense of cooperation and trust within your group? Why or why not?