



KNOT GAME

Number of players: 8-14

Space: Room for a circle

Materials needed: None

Procedure:

Everyone stands shoulder-to-shoulder in a circle. Have each player put his/her hands in the center and grab any two hands that a) don't belong to somebody right next to them, and b) belong to two different people. [If you want to test this, pass a hand squeeze around the knot; everyone should get the squeeze exactly once.] Without letting go of each others' hands, the group must untangle the knot. Note: If your group is large, divide up into 2 or 3 circles and play simultaneously.

Possible side coaching:

- "Who can see what needs to happen next?"
- "If one idea doesn't work, try another tactic."

Variations:

Group must untangle the knot silently—using only non-verbal cues.

Processing points:

- What did you have to do to untangle yourselves?
- How were decisions made?
- In what other situations might these skills be useful?

Possible learning areas:

Problem solving, cooperation, leadership

AKA: Human Pretzel, Tangling

Source: The New Games Book