

LISTENING TO FRIENDS

Project Skills:

- Youth will express themselves both through original artwork and communication tools.

Life Skills:

- Communication

Academic Standards:

- English C.4.3 Youth will participate effectively in discussion.

Grade Level: 3

Time: 60 minutes

Supplies Needed:

Duct Tape Pouches Activity

- Duct tape in a variety of colors (use clear duct tape if incorporating decorations under the tape)
- Scissors
- Optional items to use for decoration (i.e. sequins, paper clips, buttons, pine needles, etc.)

Campfire Activity

- Fan with orange crepe paper streamers

Do Ahead:

- Prepare the “campfire” as directed in the “Meeting New Friends” activity plan.

BACKGROUND

Arts and crafts time is a favorite for many youth at 4-H camp. In this lesson youth will have an opportunity to make a new kind of craft – based on the material that can be used anywhere, anytime and in any way – duct tape! In addition to expressing themselves creatively with duct tape, youth will also have the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas with the other “campers.”

WHAT TO DO

Activity: Duct Tape Pouches

Directions

1. Rip off a piece of tape slightly larger than the width that you want your pouch to be.
2. If you are adding decoration, do so now by placing your decorations on the upper half of the clear tape.
3. Layer a second piece of tape (of the same length as the first) on top of the decorated tape, sticky side down. All your decorations will be “enclosed” in tape.
4. Fold the undecorated lower half up, flattening it onto the covering tape.
5. Flip the whole strip over to reveal a new section of sticky tape that you can decorate.
6. Once you have decorated that layer, put a new piece of tape over the new decorations, overlapping and half off the top.
7. Flip and continue decorating, taping, and flipping until your pouch cloth reaches double the size that you wish. Fold over the last piece of tape overhang to complete your cloth.
8. Trim the edges so that they are even. Then tape the edges so they are smooth like the top and bottom edges.
9. Now is a good time to check for gaps that you may have missed. Tape ‘em up!
10. Fold the pouch into a shape that you like and tape! Form a flap for a pouch effect or leave as is for a wallet.



For detailed instructions with pictures on how to create the basic pouch (or wallet) fabric, see the Duct Tape Guys: www.octanecreative.com/ducttape/howto/.

Activity: Think, Pair, Share

Ask youth to share how they feel when someone really listens to what they have to say. What do your friends do to show that they are listening when you are speaking? As a group, create a list of listening skills. The Listening List may look something like this:

- Nod head
- Say something encouraging
- Ask questions
- Look them in the eye
- Use facial expressions

Sources:

- Created by Paula Rogers Huff, 4-H Youth Development Agent, UW-Extension, Oconto County
- The “Think, Pair, Share” activity is adapted from “The Responsive Classroom Discussion” by F. Lyman, in A.S. Anderson (Ed.), *Mainstreaming Digest*, College Park, MD: University of Maryland College of Education, 1981.

Discuss with the group what happens when you and your friends all have ideas to share at the same time. Stress that there are many different ways to accomplish the goal of sharing ideas and listening to friends. If your group has done the “Talking with Friends” activities, you may want to discuss how the Sharing Circle could be used to share ideas in a group.

Another strategy for people to share ideas and listen to others is to use the “Think, Pair, Share” strategy. With this tool, each individual in the group thinks about a question for a minute or so, two youth pair up and share their ideas. Remind the youth that we will be sharing ideas and that there is not a right or wrong answer, just lots of different ideas about the same topic. Encourage them to have one person go first, while the others practice their listening skills. When the first speaker is done, have the youth change roles. It may be useful to tell the youth that you will let them know when the time is half done so that they can change roles.

Start the “Think, Pair, Share” with a simple, fun question like, “Which do you think is better: peanut butter or jelly? (and why)?” to acquaint the youth with “Think, Pair, Share.” End with a question that ties friendship in with the day’s activity, such as, “In what ways is friendship like duct tape?”

Process the “Think, Pair, Share” activity with the “Talk It Over” questions below.

While youth are doing “Think, Pair, Share,” make copies of the “Listening List” for each child. After the processing, give each child a copy of the “Listening List” to put in his or her duct-taped pouch.

Activity: Campfire

Light the 4-H Afterschool campfire (fan turned on its side with orange crepe paper streamers) from the “Meeting New Friends” activity plan. Remind them about the safety procedures with “fire” and the need to avoid touching the “fire.” Then sing the “Shark Tale” and “Friends” songs from that activity plan.

TALK IT OVER**Reflect:**

- What happened in the “Think, Pair, Share” activity?
- How did you let your partner know that you were listening to what he or she had to say?
- What did your partner do that let you know that he or she was really listening to what you had to say?
- How did you feel when your partner really listened to what you had to say?

Apply:

- When your friend is telling you something really important, what are some of the things that you might do to let them know that you are listening?
- Why is it important to listen to your friends?

Reviewed by Wisconsin 4-H Afterschool Team: July 2005.