



Traffic Jam

Developed in the field by educators affiliated with NSRF.

Goal

To move all the players from one side of the playing board to the other side, and vice versa.

Rules

1. Only one player may move at a time.
2. A player may only move forward (towards the square at the top of the playing board). Players may not move backwards at any time during the game.
3. A player may only move not an open space.
4. A player may only “jump” past a player from the opposite side.
5. Players may talk.
6. You may start over again (from the beginning) when the two sides get into “traffic jam”.

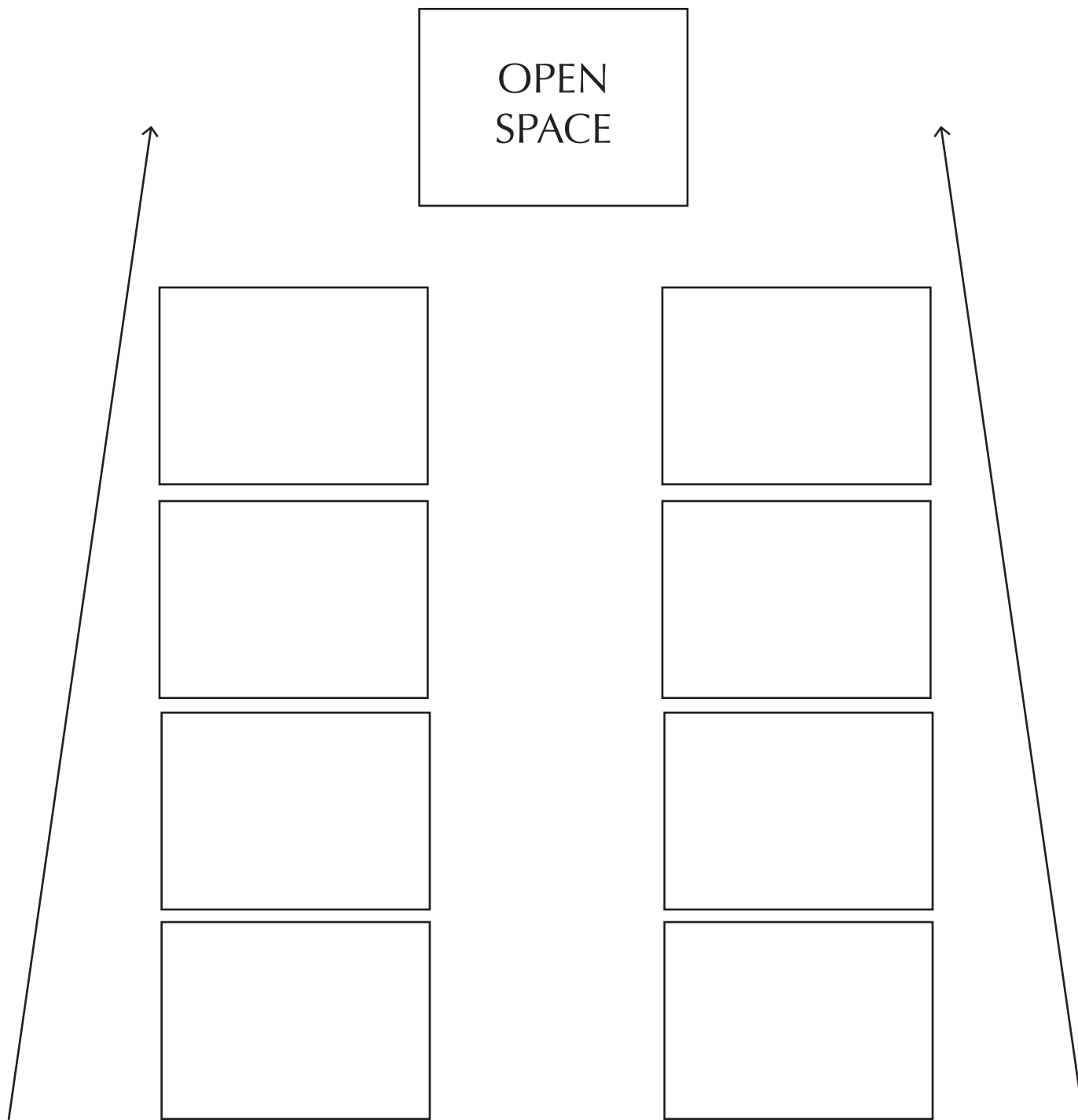
Once your team has successfully completed the task, do it once more without talking so you are sure every member of your team understands how it was done. If you finish before the other teams, talk about how your group solved the problem. Some questions to guide your discussion are:

1. What strategies did your team use to solve the problem? What would you do differently a second time around?
2. How involved were all members of the group? How did you feel about this? How well were the resources of team members used?
3. What was communication like in the group?
4. What roles did the group members assume? How did they affect the groups ability to work as a team and to complete the assigned task?
5. How were decisions made? How was this decided, and how did you all know you all agreed?

Directions for Set Up

- Set up groups of eight. You may wish to use an additional participant as an observer who will later report back to the group his/her observation of how the group handled the task and the specific behaviors observed.
- For each group of eight, have 9 pieces of 8.5 X 11 paper (colored paper would be nice) – one for each of the eight participants to stand on one extra piece to mark the “open” space indicated below.
- Set up your team according to the diagram below and review the rules carefully to make sure everyone understands.

After you have done the above steps, set up the sheets of paper on the floor as indicated here:



OPEN
SPACE

Players may only move in the direction indicated by the arrows. The key is to use the only available open space to move people across from one side to the other according to the rules!