Group Juggle

*Developed in the field by educators affiliated with NSRF.*

**Task**  
The objective for the group juggle is for the team to juggle as many objects in the air as possible.

**Materials**  
A variety of objects to be used for juggling.

**Rules**  
1. Each person must throw to the same person and receive from the same person throughout the activity.
2. A toss has a low and high point. A toss is different than a pass or a hand off.
3. Objects that fall can be left alone or brought back into play.
4. A group is only allowed to use their own objects.

**Facilitator**  
- Asks the group to form a circle.
- As the facilitator, explain that you want to create a pattern of tossing the ball as a team by calling out a person’s name and then throwing the object to him/her.
- After a person receives the ball, he/she is asked to throw it to someone else in the group until everyone has thrown and received the ball only once.
- Ask the group to remember the pattern and try the pattern again to make sure that they know to whom they throw and from whom they receive the ball.
- After the object is passed through the group a second time, explain the notion of juggling multiple objects. Invite the group to try again and to see how many objects they can toss.
- Let them know that when you count out loud, “1, 2, 3, STOP,” the group needs to stop and see how many objects they have in play.
- After 2 or 3 rounds, ask the group to set their own goal of what they believe they can accomplish and then invite them to try again.

**Processing Questions**  
- How would you describe your feelings related to the juggle from the beginning, middle, and end?
- How would you describe your group’s effectiveness from the beginning, middle, and end?
- What did it take for you to be successful as a group?
- As we work to strengthen our learning community as a staff, what should we keep in mind?
- What might we do differently with our students as a result of this experiment?
- What problems were you trying to solve?
- How did you solve the problems we faced?
- Was there any fear of failure minimized by the activity and/or the group?
- How did the establishment of a goal impact on your team’s ability to work together and solve the problem?
- What kinds of reflection, intervention, and staff development/remediation, or redirection took place to improve your effectiveness?
- Are there connections between group success in this activity and your work?