

50 Strange shapes



Author	Sarah Cook
Overview	Participants are divided into teams. Each team is given an envelope containing an assortment of cut out shapes. The team's task is to assemble the shapes. They cannot speak to anyone.
Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Building trust.• Energising participants.• Forming or regrouping teams.• Improving team communication.
Learning point	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The benefits of inter-group communication.
Time	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 minutes.
Numbers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Any, with a minimum of six.
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A copy of Handout 50 <i>Strange shapes</i>, for each participant• A bus timetable or a map• Envelopes
Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Print out or photocopy the Handout(s) required.• Gather together the materials described above.• Before the training session, find a bus timetable or a map and cut this into small pieces. Put the pieces into envelopes, ensuring that there is an even distribution of pieces across all the envelopes.
What to do	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Divide the participants into teams of three to six.• Distribute a copy of Handout 50 <i>Strange shapes</i>, to each participant and check that everyone knows what to do. Emphasise that they must not speak or they will be immediately disqualified.

FOR PREVIEW ONLY

50 Strange shapes

Points for discussion

- Start the activity.
- Stop this after a maximum of 15 minutes.

Choose which of these points you would like to raise with participants:

Inter-group relationships

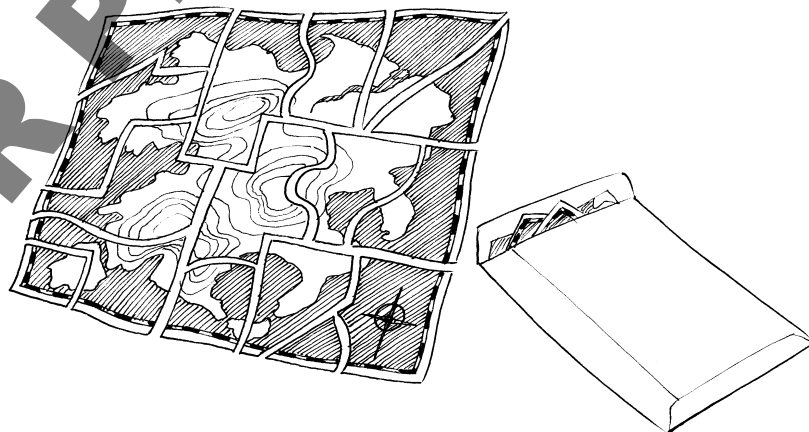
- How well did you respond to requests for shapes?
- Was there an equal exchange of shapes between all teams?
- Were teams trusting of each other?

Problem solving

- How did you go about solving the problem?
- How long was it before you found out that you needed the other teams' help to complete the task?

Teamwork

- How well did you work together within your team?
- What was the effect of lack of verbal communication on the team?





Handout 50 – *Strange shapes*

Your team has a maximum of 15 minutes in which to put the shapes you have in the envelope back into their original form, from which the pieces were cut.

You cannot speak to anyone in the room throughout this time or you will be instantly disqualified!

FOR PREVIEW ONLY

