

Team work / friendship and working together

Animal whispers

Whisper animal names into children's ears – two of each name.

Children make the matching animal noise and find their partner.

Human basketball

One child in a pair makes arms into a net and partner throws paper balls in.

(Can also be human bin, and children write negative feelings etc on paper before throwing it in.)

Ball on blanket

Roll ball to different people in group on blanket.

Making connections

Roll of masking tape – stick end to your knee, then pass roll around circle, each person sticking it to their knee as it goes round so whole group ends up joined together.

Peer message

Ask permission first. Weather reports – children draw rain / sun / cloudy / snow / windy weather onto partner's back. Use tone of voice to regulate activity.

Can also draw on backs and have second child draw what they think the picture is on paper.

Hula hoop game

Hang hoop off arm, then all join hands in a circle. Challenge the group to pass the hoop to the next person, then the next and so on, until it gets back to the leader – without letting go of hands.

Tangles

Need an open space. Everyone closes their eyes, then slowly moves around with their arms out-stretched, until they find someone else and hold hands. Keep going until everyone is holding someone's hand, then continue until the whole group are joined together.

Balancing your partner 1

Sit back to back with legs outstretched and link arms at the elbow, then try to stand, helping each other.

Balancing your partner 2

Sit facing with legs outstretched, feet touching, and holding hands, and try to pull each other up to a standing position.

Touch down

In groups of 2/3/4, pick a number out of a bag, then your group must touch the floor with that total number of body parts.

Mirror Mirror

With a partner, take turns to mirror each other's movements.

Story parts

Cut a story or cartoon into pieces – one for each member of the group. Hand out pieces, and children have to silently put the story in order.

Sentence parts

Give children sentence starters / endings, and they find the person with the other half of their own sentence part.

Hide the ring

Thread a ring onto a length of string and tie the ends together to make a circle of string (long enough to be held by everyone in the circle. Choose a detective to leave the room while the group start to pass the ring along the string, attempting to keep it hidden. The detective returns once the ring has been passed around once, and has to guess who is holding it (the children should continue passing it around / pretending to pass it around.) The detective has up to three guesses, then someone else takes over as detective.

Crawl forward

Children are labelled A or B and get on hands and knees, ready to crawl. When each letter is called, those children move just one limb forward. The aim is to cross to the opposite side of the circle, manoeuvring around each other in the centre of the circle.