

BUMPER CARS

FEBRUARY

MODULAR 7

Purpose: To practice communication skills by directing others with non-verbal instructions.

Materials: Boundary markers

Time Frame: 10 minutes

Setting: A large rectangular open space with boundary markers where everyone fits with an arm's length space around them.

DIRECTIONS: Ask the group "Has anyone ever driven a car?" Now is your big chance. But, since we are making this special chance available to you, you will need to be very careful with your car. Your car trusts you to drive carefully and not crash into any other cars. You have a very expensive, sporty car. Be careful."

1. Everyone will need to find a partner. In each pair, one person is the car and one person is the driver. The car will keep their eyes closed while the driver drives around.
2. The driver's goal is to drive around during an allotted time period (two minutes) without any crashes. The driver will tell the car to move forward by placing both hands on the shoulders. To stop, the driver will remove their hands. To go right, tap lightly with the right hand. To go left, tap lightly with the left hand. The driver and car may not talk (of course, cars do not talk!).
3. Switch positions!

TALK IT OVER WITH THE GROUP:

- Bring the group back together in a comfortable space. Ask each person to complete the sentence, "I liked being the _____ (car or driver) best because . . ."
- Go around the group getting their responses.
 - Did anyone find it difficult being the car? Why?
 - What did your driver do that made you feel safe? Unsafe?
 - Did the cars trust their drivers? Why?
 - Did anyone who was a car keep their eyes open?

