

COOPERATION LESSON: TRUSTING YOUR PARTNER

for 4th and 5th grade



students will

- communicate effectively with a partner
- trust a partner and listen to directions

materials

- Partner A and Partner B drawing sheets
- Pencil
- Optional: Clip boards

Approximate Lesson Length: 25 min

Whether cooperating with a group or just one partner, you need to trust each other in order to reach your mutual goal. In order to show trust, you need to listen and follow directions from your partner. To be trustworthy, you need to give clear and accurate directions and input to your teammate.

Pre-Activity Discussion (5 minutes)

- Do you like working with a partner? Why or why not?
- What's it like working with a partner who you can't trust to do the work?
- What's it like working with a partner that you enjoy working with and can trust completely to do the work?

Activity (15 minutes)

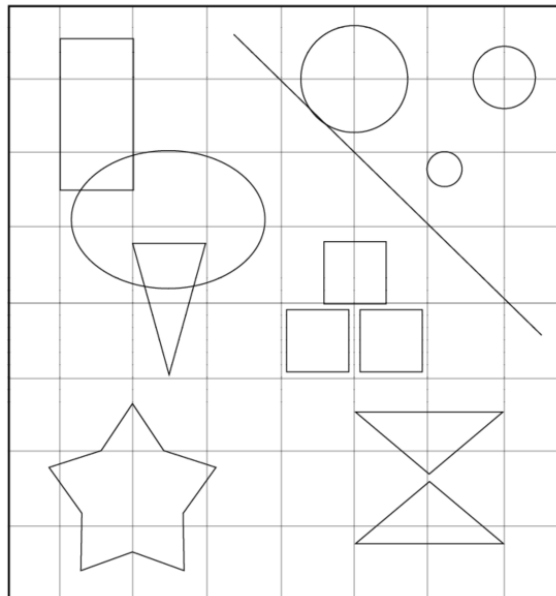
Split students into pairs and have them sit back to back, either at desks or on the floor with a clipboard to draw on.

1. Give one student a Partner A sheet and the other a Partner B sheet. Make sure that they don't look at each other's papers.
2. Explain the activity to students. **SAY:** You each have half of the same drawing. Your goal in this activity is to help each other complete the drawing so that

COOPERATION LESSON: TRUSTING YOUR PARTNER

you both end up with the same completed drawing in the end.

- SAY:** You will need to clearly describe what you see on your own paper and give directions to your partner on how to complete their drawing. You should use the grid to help describe where the shapes on your page are.
- (For educator reference only, do not show students)** The final drawing should look like this:



- Role play how Partner A would describe the location of a shape to Partner B. **SAY:** Here's an example of how Partner A would describe the location of a shape to Partner B: There is a small circle in the upper right corner of my paper. Find the spot where the line between ROW 1 and ROW 2 crosses the line between COLUMN G and COLUMN H. Draw the circle around the spot where the lines cross each other.
- Share this Tip: Compare shapes to things you know (pyramid, stack of blocks, bird head with beak).
- Set a timer for 10-12 minutes before students start (depending on how long the directions take). It's okay if every pair does not finish before time is up.

COOPERATION LESSON: TRUSTING YOUR PARTNER

Post-Activity Discussion (5 minutes)

Go over the following questions with the group:

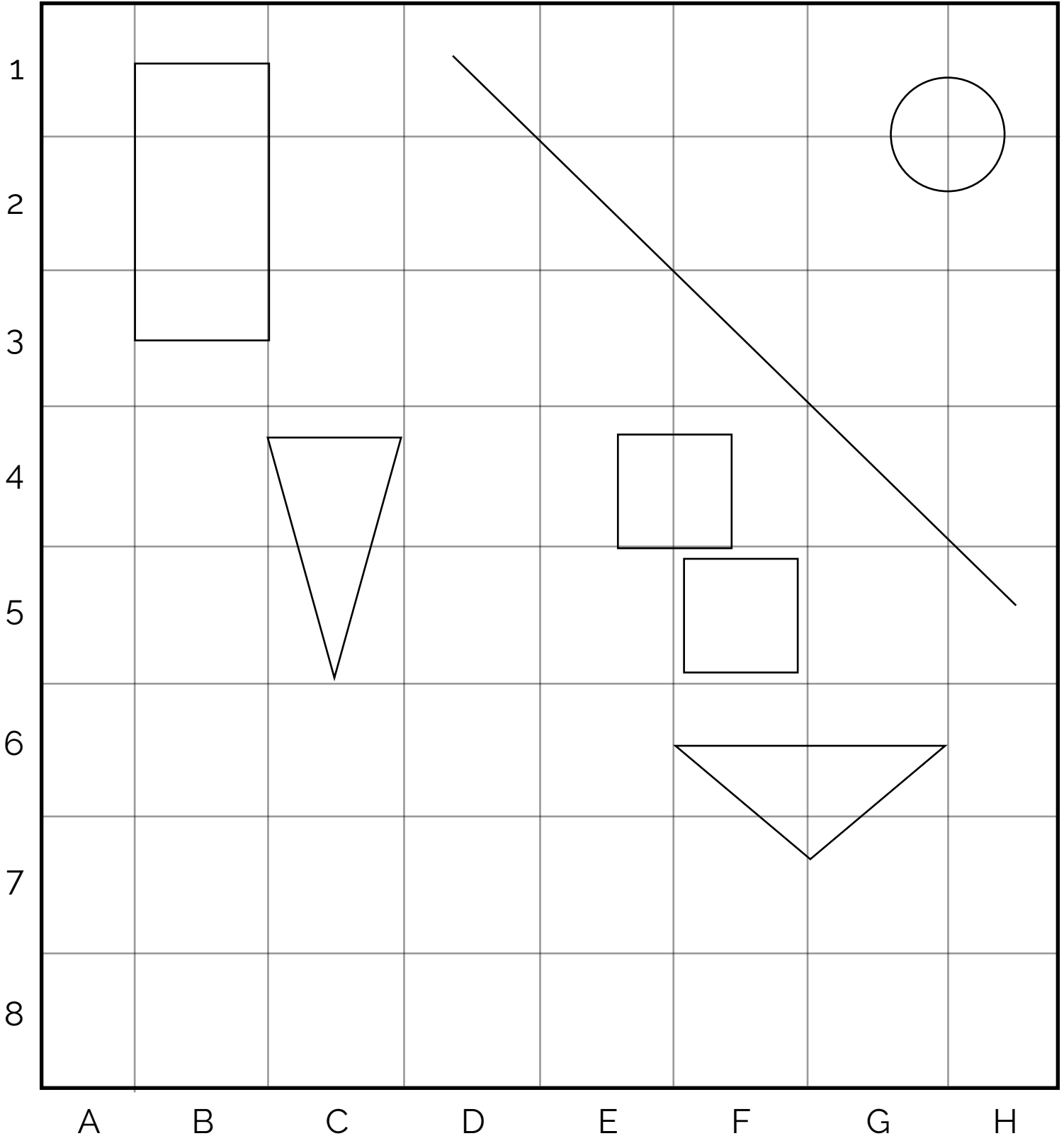
- Did you both end up with the same drawing?
- What did you find difficult in this activity?
- What did you have to do to be successful in this activity? What skills did you have to use?

SAY: When we're cooperating, using good communication skills is often important, too. We'll be more successful at reaching our goal if we communicate with each other calmly and clearly. It's also very important that we trust our partner and know their directions will be correct.

Educator Notes

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Partner A 4th-5th



COOPERATION LESSON: TRUSTING YOUR PARTNER

Partner B 4th-5th

