

# Collaboration - Teamwork is fun!

This lesson is meant to encourage and motivate children to determine how to successfully collaborate and work together as team players to accomplish a shared goal. Although this lesson is specifically tailored for Grade 1, it can easily be adapted to suit any grade level K-6. Complete the lesson by following the instructions found in each section.

		
Teacher Led	Requires Computer OR Mobile Device	Requires <a href="#">Spaces</a>

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## Learning Goals

1. Students will be able to clearly express their ideas, feelings, and thoughts to collaborate successfully with other students.
2. Students will analyze a short story, and discuss the meaning of collaboration.
3. Students will reflect on strategies and skills needed to effectively collaborate with those around them.

## Materials

	<b>Technology Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet</li> <li>• Mobile device, tablet, or laptop</li> </ul>
	<b>Video/Audio Clips</b>	<a href="#"><u>The Crayon By: Simon Rickerty</u></a>
	<b>Miscellaneous</b>	Blocks (could be legos, jenga pieces, etc...) 10 toy cars per group (or share them amongst the groups) 10 popsicle sticks per group 4 straws per group 1 roll of duck tape per group

## Introduction

1. Students are asked to meet at the rug.
  - a. Write the word “collaboration” on the board and ask students what they think this word means. \*You may even want to write their ideas on the board in a brainstorm web so everyone can see them.
  - b. Ask the students for examples of times when they collaborated with other people to get things done. How did it go? Did you accomplish your goal? What could have gone better?
  - c. Why is it important to learn how to successfully collaborate with other people? How could we all improve to be a better team player?

## Read Aloud

Explain to students that you will be reading them a book today about collaboration and teamwork. Tell them you want them to think about the way the characters in this book work together to get something done.

1. Read or [show the book being read](#).
2. Following the story, ask students the following questions:
  - a. Every story has a conflict or problem. What was the problem in this story?
  - b. How do you think their communication and collaboration skills were? Good? Poor?
  - c. How did they solve their conflict at the end?

## Effective Collaboration

Reiterate the importance of effective collaboration when working to accomplish a shared goal.

### Class Presentation Activity

Choose two students. With each student, take them aside (**SEPARATELY**) and tell them they need to work together and build something. Tell one student something they are to build (house, tower, dog, etc...) and tell the other person something different. Have students come back in front of the class and tell them to begin building, but that they are not allowed to speak. They are to work together to build their item. Set a timer for 3-5 minutes. \*\*This will only work if students are actively trying to work together to build their objects. Not just one student building and the other watching.

When the timer is up, it should look like the students are confused or frustrated and they may not have accomplished much. Thank them and excuse them to sit back with the class.

Explain to the class that these two students were given different assignments and because they were not allowed to communicate, it was obviously difficult to get their goal met. Tell students what each student was instructed to create ←if you don't, they will ask! Explain to them that it's important to communicate and collaborate to accomplish a goal. Tell the students they will all now get the opportunity to practice their effective collaboration skills.

## Collaboration - Activity

### Directions:

1. Separate students into groups of 3-5 depending on class size and amount of supplies you have.
2. Explain to the students that they will be collaborating with their groups to build a bridge that will hold 10 toy cars. They should use chairs or desks pushed close together to build these bridges.
3. Display the materials students will have to create this bridge and assign someone from each group to retrieve the materials. (10 toy cars, 10 popsicle sticks, 4 straws, a roll of duct tape).
4. Finally, explain to the students the amount of time they have to accomplish their goal (this is dependent on teacher discretion, but it could be 15, 20, or even 30 minutes).

## Documenting in Spaces

**Teacher Tip!** The instructions for this lesson involve adding to the Class or Individual Space in Spaces. You can adapt the instructions if you'd prefer to make this an Activity.

1. Students will document their learning in Spaces by following these guidelines:
  - a. Click + Create > Choose Camera > Take a photo of their group bridge WITH all 10 cars on it > Post Photo
  - b. Add a Title > Write a description of your bridge
  - c. Post a Description > Have students answer one or more of the following prompts:
    - i. Do you think your group collaborated effectively today?
    - ii. What could you have done to improve your teamwork today?
    - iii. Did your group successfully accomplish your goal and create a bridge that held 10 cars?
    - iv. What was the most difficult thing about today's assignment?
  - d. Click ✓ Next
  - e. Choose the Class Space or Individual Space
  - f. Click ✓ Post

Example (but their picture should show 10 cars):

