

SHRINKING PLATFORM

STUDENTS ARE CHALLENGED TO FIT THEMSELVES
ONTO EVER-SHRINKING PLATFORMS.



ALL ABOARD ACTIVITY 2



MATERIALS NEEDED:

All Aboard Platforms, all three sizes (included)
Stopwatch (optional)
Mats, large enough to cover the space around the platforms in the event of a fall



PRIOR TO ACTIVITY:

Determine the number of students who should participate. Typically, 6-10 students (depending on age and size) are appropriate for this task. Place mats under or around platforms. Platforms should be a distance of two feet from one another.

Note: It is assumed that students have completed All Aboard Activity 1 prior to attempting this challenge. If, however, students have not had this previous experience, the beginning of this activity should be modified accordingly.



THE ACTIVITY:

Begin by reviewing what happened with the All Aboard challenge activity. Inform students that they are now going to attempt an even greater challenge. They'll start by repeating the All Aboard challenge and then work towards progressively fitting on two smaller platforms. The rule is the same: all feet on the platform. Inquire whether they will use the same strategies as the last time to get on the platforms. For the smaller platforms, encourage additional brainstorming, problem solving and action planning. Again, assist as necessary to keep students safe from falling. Count to five or time students once they are all aboard. (Note: Not all students will fit on the smallest platform. Work towards the greatest number possible.)

Note: For groups that have quick success, time how quickly they can move from largest to smallest platforms. Have them work to "beat" their record while maintaining safety.



SAMPLE PROCESSING QUESTIONS:

1. How did this task change from start to finish?
2. How did each "change" challenge your group?
3. As the task changed, how did you adjust to the changes? What did the group need to do differently?
4. As the task changed, what choices did you make in order to successfully share the space?
5. How were decisions made in your group? Did you arrive at your decisions with input from several/many group members, or did one or two individuals decide for the group?
6. What might have happened if people had refused to share the space?
7. What are some examples that you have experienced of people who want to try one thing while others want to try something else? Why could that happen and what are some ways the group could respond to this challenge?



CONCEPTS:

Teamwork, Problem Solving, Responding to Change, Trust Building, Communication, Perseverance, Shared Vision and Shared Space.