

Bidding Game

This is an activity that encourages group work and budget handling.

Materials:

- A large sheet of paper or a wipe board,
- Felt tips/Pens,
- Various items such as ropes, paper plates, sheets of paper, hoola hoops etc
- Paper Money
- Cones/ markers for the area

How:

The school council members are split into two groups and given £100 worth of paper money.

An area of 10/15 feet is marked off.

The groups are each told that they must select items that they can use to build a bridge so they can all cross from one side to another without touching the floor.

The object is to bid for items that they want.

Each group is given a piece of paper and a pen and they must decide which items they are going to bid for, and how much they are willing to pay. They can spend whatever they want, but not exceed their £100 limit.

The items go to the highest bidders, but if two groups bid the same for an item, they must bid again. This may mean a group giving up an item they already have if they exceed their budget. . Once they have their items they must work as a team to build their bridge as fast as they can. The winner is the team that gets to the other side the quickest.

Discussions points:

- Was it hard to bid for the items and agree on a price?
- Did you disagree with the way the bridge was built?
- What would you have done differently?
- How would you have adapted a project if the materials cost more than you had financially?
- Would this project have been easier if the budget was larger than £1000 or would it have made no difference?
- When there were disagreements inside the group how were they handled?
- Did you think they were handled fairly or not