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Connecting	Stretching	Transferring	
Topic: 4e Empathy	Activity: Balloon Challenge		

What you are trying to achieve ...

Building the capacity to identify with others and see things from their emotional point of view.

Set up the Learning Challenge

Work in groups of six.

Give out or display the Learning Challenge.

Run through the scenario:

– There are six people in a balloon escaping from a contaminated area.

– They are going over the mountains to set up a community in a clean area.

– But the balloon is sinking and one person must jump out for the rest to survive.

Taking on the role of one of the people you must present a case for why you shouldn't be the one to jump out.

Once you have heard from each person, the whole group must decide who must jump.

– How will they make it easy for him or her to leave?

Debrief

• How were decisions made?

• Did the group set a time limit for a case to be made?

• Who played active or passive roles?

• How did you empathise with the roles / characters?

• What swayed the decisions most: the person's attributes and powers of persuasion, or the job role they would have in the new community?

Extend understanding of empathy

Move on to Transferring activities and the Learning Log

Things to Try ...

Variations: life-raft, spaceship, etc.

Add incidents, accidents, rituals.

Coaching Notes

Learning Challenge

DIY Resource


BLP
www.blp.uk.com

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