



All Aboard

Developed in the field by educators affiliated with NSRF

The All Aboard is a wooden platform approximately 24 inches in square and 8 inches thick.

Task

The task for the group is to place all the members of the group on the platform so that everyone in the group is on the platform at the same time and not in contact with the ground for a specified amount of time.

Rules

1. All members of the group must end up on the platform at the same time.
2. Group members may only be touching the platform or another group member.
3. Group members must stay on the platform for a designated period of time once they are all on the platform. (We'll use a 10 count.)

Spotting and Safety

1. Group members that have not mounted the platform must spot for those getting on or off the platform.
2. Absolutely no pile ons. (Only mention this if the group comes up with the idea.)
3. Step off the platform rather than jump off to avoid sprained ankles.
4. Have yourself and one other person from the team serve as spotters for the group.

Special Considerations

Instructor spotting is critical for this event. Focus your attention on the group and do not relax for a second. The most common place for a fall to occur is where the last person mounted the platform. Falls occur most often while a person is getting on the platform and just after they have gotten on the platform. Place yourself on the side that is the heaviest to help protect people if they lose their balance and the group falls to their side.

Special attention should be given to any individual that is going to be raised above the group on shoulders. Only allow this to take place if there are a minimum of three persons spotting and limit this kind of action to no more than one person. As facilitator, you need to be responsible for the raised person throughout the activity. The dismount can be tricky at the end so be prepared to spot quickly.

Possible Fantasy Situations

The platform is a specially designed spaceship that holds exactly the number of participants in the group. However the ship was designed to only take off when it is fully loaded for a specified length of time. The group must load the ship and blast off to escape death from a group of pursuing killer bees.

The group is a team of food scientists that are survivors of a sinking ocean liner. The platform is a life raft

that is their only hope of long term survival. It is important that all members of the team survive because each one has vital information to bring an end to the world food shortage. The team must board the life raft and wait for a helicopter rescue.

Processing of Experience

How would you describe your group's planning process? In what ways was it effective? How could your group improve upon your planning efforts in the future? What did it take to be listened to in the group? What happened when you weren't successful early on? How did this effect your work? What brought you around as individuals or as a group to hang in there and keep trying? What problems did you have to solve to be successful in this activity? Were some problems easier to solve than others? Why? What did it take to get everyone on board here? Do any of these strategies apply to getting staff on board back home with implementing school wide plans/initiatives?