

Engage your class with this ready-to-use challenge activity!

SOLE MISSION

Duration: **20 min.** Materials needed: **none**
Targeted Skills: **Collaboration, Communication**

Activity - Suggested Procedure:

- Create a large group circle.
- Have participants get into groups of 2 (or 3) with someone next to them in the circle.
- Tell everyone to examine their partner(s) shoes very closely (don't tell them why!).
- Next, have each team member take off one of their shoes (or take off both if you have a lot of time) and place them in a pile in the center of the large group circle. Once you add your shoe to the pile, return to the outer circle - this large circle is now a boundary, and only the "Rescue Team" members can cross 'into' the circle.
- Be sure to mix up the pile of shoes in the middle before beginning the next step!
- In each small group, one person will become "**Mission Control**" while the other(s) are the "**Rescue Team.**"
The group's Sole Mission is to retrieve your team's shoes from the mixed up pile in the center.
 - **Mission Control is the communicator** - they have **the ability to see and speak** but **must remain outside of the circle** at all times.
 - The Rescue Team are the sole retrievers - they can speak, but they cannot see, so they must close their eyes when entering the circle and keep them closed throughout.
- Mission Control will use voice commands to direct the Rescue Team in successfully retrieving all of their team's shoes from the center pile & bringing them back to the outer circle.
- Once all shoes are retrieved, the Sole Mission is accomplished! Feel free to do another round and have participants change roles!

Facilitation Tips:



For added fun, you could:

- 1) set a timer and all soles must be rescued before the time runs out,
- 2) have teams record their times and see if they can rescue their soles faster in future rounds.



Since this activity requires 'blind trust', you may want to review norms and safety guidelines before beginning.



Debrief Discussion:

- What strategies did your team try? What might you do differently next time?
- How did your team communicate with each other during this activity?
- What was challenging about this activity? How did your team overcome this challenge?

Is your class ready
for the next challenge? 

