

# “Count to 20!”

**Equipment:** None!

**Directions from Facilitator:** Everyone in your group (about 8-10 children per group is ideal) stands shoulder-to-shoulder in a circle.

“From now on there can be no talking because no talking is part of the exercise!

“In fact, not only can there be no talking, there can be no communicating in any way. For example, you can’t make a gesture, point, motion someone or make any other signal during the entire exercise!

“Because not yet, but in a minute, I’m going to say, ‘Ok, START!’ When I do, some one person—and you will not decide who it is—some one random person will say, ‘ONE!’ After that, a second and different person will say, ‘2!’ Then an even different person will say, ‘3!’ And so on and so forth until your group counts consecutively from 1 to 20!

“There are 3 rules!

- 1) If you say a number, you have to wait at least one turn before you say another number. For example, if you said, ‘1!’ you could not say, ‘2!’ You can say as many numbers as you like but as long as you keep that rule! (By the way you can stay silent throughout the entire exercise, but your group does have to get to 20!)
- 2) You can’t go in a circle or any pattern! It has to be totally random and totally spontaneous. You can’t plan or talk about it! You just go!
- 3) If two people speak at the same time—or if someone says a number out of order—you have to start over at 1! If you have to start over you don’t talk and you don’t figure out what went wrong—you just go!”

See which groups can get to 20!

**The Big Message: Non-verbal Communication!**