



Jenga Tower

Description

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Groups work together to see how high they can build their Jenga tower.

Supplies

- At least 2 sets of Jenga blocks (students will be divided into smaller groups—4-6 students per group—and each group needs a set of Jenga blocks)

How to Play

1. **Prep work:** Set up Jenga towers as stated in the directions for the game—three rows of blocks lying flat facing vertically and then horizontally, alternating for each row.
2. Explain that the goal for today is to try to make the tallest Jenga tower in a certain amount of time. Pick a time frame (5-7 minutes) that will work for your group.
3. Tell your group the rules for Jenga:
 - One student goes at a time
 - Use one hand to remove a block from the tower (you must remove the block you touch)
 - The block that you remove cannot be from the top 3 rows
 - Once you remove a block, you must put the block on top of the Jenga tower in the correct direction (3 blocks on a row, alternating horizontally and vertically)
4. Students take turns playing Jenga. If the tower falls, the group starts again and someone must share positive feedback with another member of the group. Remind them that positive feedback has two parts: tell the person exactly what they did and tell them how it made you feel

Activity Prompts for Reflection

- Give positive feedback to someone based on something that happened during this activity.
- What emotion does it make you feel when you compliment someone else?
- What does it feel like to receive positive feedback?
- What is a way you were supportive of others during this activity?

Other Ways to Play

- Write the student's names on the blocks and when a block is pulled that person is given positive feedback.
- Mix up the groups between rounds so everyone gets to interact with different students

Additional Notes

- Use the [SEL Activity Prompts](#) to tie other SEL competencies to this activity.
- Have students sit with their hands behind their backs or on their knees so that they are able to control themselves and resist the urge to touch the tower.
- Have some trustworthy students work together to set up the Jenga towers at the beginning of this activity.

Category

1. Activities
2. Relationship Skills

Sel-competency

1. Relationship Skills

Allotted-time

1. 10-15 minutes

Themes

1. Work Together-Teamwork