

Thinking With Your Eyes Activity



<http://meesterc.wordpress.com>

This was an activity that I tried with one of my social thinking groups. The students often have difficulty thinking about the group. This activity was one of the first times that they really focused and participated with expected behaviors for the entire time!

1. **Explain:** Today we will be thinking with our eyes. What does that look?
2. Tell the group that they will know when it their turn when someone is thinking about them with their eyes.
3. The leader (you first) claps a pattern and others imitate. You can clap your knees, hands, etc. or a combination. The object is to have the whole group doing the same thing without talking. You continue until the leader thinks about another person with only their eyes. The next person then starts an action- anything is ok as long as it is expected behaviors. If an action is unexpected (standing on chair, etc.) you stop the game and process the situation.

In this classroom the teacher sets a timer for a few minutes. When the timer rings the students state whether they were being part of the group (expected behaviors). This group earned points for free time on Fridays- each point equals one minute.

4. I used a Hot Potato game for the next part. State that it cannot be passed until you are thinking about the other person with your eyes. The leader passes the potato with a “flair.” You can turn it upside down, make it look like it is jumping, circle it around, etc. as you pass it. Each player does the same action until the Hot Potato yells yahoo. The player caught with him is the next leader. If you don’t have this type of toy try using a radio or CD that someone can turn off and on.



5. I also used a game called Basket Case. My headband is broken so being a a flexible thinker I just used the basket and the two sticks without the headband. The leader held the basket in front of them and threw a ping pong ball to someone he was thinking of with his eyes. That person tried to make a basket. Each person got a turn before changing leaders. You could also use any small box or container and soft balls like ping pong balls.



This is a starting point and I’m sure you can think of lots of other ways to Think With Your Eyes. Have fun!