

Grade 9-12

Time 20-60

minutes

Social Studies Core

The Machine

Line of inquiry

How do we work together? Does school prepare us for working in different kinds of situations?

Grade range: 9-12

Group size: Groups of 5-6 and a machine maker. The rest of the class can be

the audience, or the facilitator can divide the class into machines

Materials: Room in which to move

Time: 20-60 minutes

Skills: Critical thinking skills, communication, cooperation

Space: Any classroom with some space in the front or center for 5 or 6 people

to move.

Directions: Facilitator will proclaim to be a master machine builder and ask for a volunteer. That student will be given a small repetitive movement and a sound such as moving one arm up and down and saying beep. The facilitator will continue to create movement and sounds for each of the other students until 5 or 6 students have created a machine. Each student must be touching or interacting with one other student, who doesn't have to be interacting back. The facilitator will make the machine work hard, work slow, and ultimately break down. Other students can become the machine builder. The game can go on until all of the students have had a chance to be part of a machine. Groups of students can work simultaneously and can have a little extra time to prepare their machine before they present it to the class.