



GOLDEN RULE PROJECT

Grade
8-12

Time
30+
minutes

Social
Studies
Core

Trust Table

Line of inquiry

How easy is it to trust others? When is it easy and when is it difficult?

Grade range: 8-12

Group size: 5-7 students

Materials: One small table, strong enough for someone to stand on, at the front of the room, with space around the tables for students to stand.

Time: 30 minutes or more, depending on how many want to participate.

Skills: Critical thinking skills, communication, cooperation.

Space: the front of a classroom, where the table and some students will fit.

Directions: One student will volunteer to leave the room. If other students want to try the trust exercise, they must go out as well and take turns coming back in to the room. The facilitator will pick 5-6 volunteers to be the “labor force.” They will be lifting the table – while the student who left the room – standing on it. But that student won’t know what is happening. The five or six students will come forward, encircle the table and at the facilitator’s request, lift the table, slowly and in unison. Ask that they not tilt the table. Keep it as level (and safe) as possible.