

EduTrend Contents

G4C · NON-VERBAL COMMUNICATION GAMES · PRIMARY

Silent Line-Up

Line up in birthday order without speaking, writing or mouthing words, then check how close you came

Ages 6–10	Level: Developing	10 minutes	Whole class of 8–30	Activity 02

Inside: activity at a glance · step-by-step session plan · facilitator notes · 3 pupil worksheets · assessment checklist

ACTIVITY 02 · AT A GLANCE

Silent Line-Up

Tell the group they must line up in order of birthday month, January to December, without speaking, writing or mouthing words. They may use gestures, fingers and pointing. When they think they are done, they check aloud one by one and see how close they came. Then talk about which signals the group invented and agreed.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the session pupils can:

- communicate without words;
- invent and agree signals;
- cooperate as a group;
- check and reflect.

KEY WORDS

gesture · signal · point · order · agree · silent

CURRICULUM LINKS

PSHE: teamwork. Maths: ordering. Drama.

1	2	3	4	5	6
WARM UP	**EXPLAIN**	**PLAY**	**LOOK**	**TALK**	**CLOSE**
Faces and bodies ready	One game, clear rules	Show without words	Notice the clues	What told you?	Calm and positive

Materials (whole class)

- Clear space
- Worksheets 1, 2 and 3

Before the session

- Clear a space.
- Explain the silent rule.
- Decide the ordering rule.
- Plan a check.

SAFETY

If birthdays feel personal for anyone, line up by height or letters in first name instead.

ACTIVITY 02 · SESSION PLAN

Step by step

The talk afterwards about invented signals is where the learning settles.

Time	What happens	Say or ask
0–1 min **Warm up**	Show numbers with fingers.	*"How can you show March?"*
1–2 min **Explain**	Silent rules.	*"What can you use?"*
2–7 min **Play**	Line up and check.	*"How close were we?"*
7–10 min **Close**	Discuss signals.	*"Which signal did everyone understand?"*

CHALLENGE CARD (print or copy onto the board)

Help the group get into order using only signals everyone understands.

ACTIVITY 02 · FACILITATOR NOTES

The non-verbal game know-how in brief

Groups have to invent and agree shared signals to succeed.

Checking aloud afterwards shows which signals worked.

Common ideas to listen for

- “You need words to cooperate.” Signals work too.
- “One person should organise it.” Everyone can help.
- “Pointing is rude.” In this game it is a tool.

Adapting the activity

Support

Line up by height, which children can see.

Stretch

Line up by the number of letters in first names or by house number.

WORKSHEET 1

Our signals

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____

Draw the signals you used.

Signals

Meaning	Signal

WORKSHEET 2

How close?

Record your result.

Result

Round	Number in the right place
1	
2	

WORKSHEET 3

Reflection

Draw or write.

Without words, we...

FOR THE TEACHER

Assessment checklist

Use during the session. One sheet covers up to eight pupils; copy as needed.

Pupil	Uses signals	Cooperates	Reflects on signals

Suggested codes: W = working towards · E = expected · G = greater depth

ABOUT THIS ACTIVITY

Silent Line-Up is a sample activity from the EduTrend Contents G4C Non-Verbal Communication Games programme (primary, level: developing). Every activity in the programme follows the same format: a practical challenge, a clear session plan, facilitator notes and ready-to-print worksheets, so that teachers, club leaders and parents can run it without extra preparation.

Full 15-, 20- and 32-week programmes are available from EduStore at edutrend.org.

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