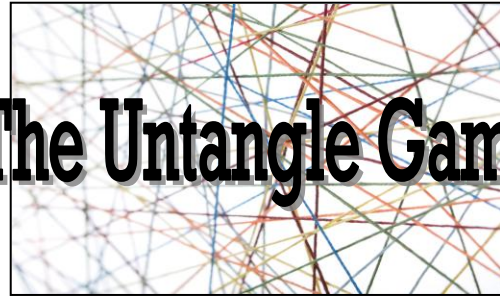




The Untangle Game



We live in the age of instant everything. We want what we want and we want it now. We have instant coffee, high-speed internet, microwave ovens, fast cars, self serve check-out, and fast-food. Almost any- and everywhere we go, we have cell phones, Mp3 players, TV's, computers, you name it. We may have instant this and quick that, but we don't have much patience. The Untangle Game is a fun activity to introduce the need for patience with ourselves and with others.

The rules for The Untangle Game are very simple.

- 1. Divide into groups of 6 (must be an even number).**
- 2. Stand facing one another in a circle.**
- 3. Have each student grab the right hand of a student across from (*not next to*) him or her.**
- 4. Next, join left hands with a different person.**
- 5. Finally, try to untangle (*become an unbroken circle*) without anyone letting go.**

After a group finishes, let them assist a struggling group.

When the kids have played the game for a while, have a discussion with the following questions:

1. How did it take patience to get untangled?

2. What motivated you to keep going when you were frustrated and tempted to give up?

3. What does patience look like.....in the classroom.....on the playground.....in the cafeteria.....at home?

After discussing the questions, define with your students what it means to Be Patient. *(We have listed some examples below)*

I am patient with others and how they act.

I am careful with my work and how I handle situations.

I think before I speak or act.

I know it takes patience to achieve my goals....at school, at home, and in life.



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