

Cardinal Points Game (Advanced)

Materials & Set up:

2 Blindfolds

Large open space (gym or field)

Obstacles (cones, hula hoops, etc)

Designate a “start” line at one end of the play space with a rope, or other markers.

Set up North, East, South, and West signs around the perimeter of the space.

Arrange the obstacles throughout the playing space.

Small object for hiding (marker, chalkboard eraser, etc)

Divide class into teams of five.

Directions:

1. In this game, teams take turns finding a hidden object in the playing space. Other teams must stay silent during the game, but will enjoy watching the playing team work through the challenge. All teams will get a chance to try.
2. Each team should elect a “finder” and a “speaker.” Everyone else on the team will be able to give directions.
3. All team members begin the game behind the start line.
4. The “finder” and “speaker” are blindfolded and the facilitator of the game hides the small object in the playing space. Everyone else on the team should silently note where the object is hidden.
5. The “speaker’s” blindfold is removed but they are required to keep their back to the playing space and face the rest of their team members.
6. The rest of the team may now start giving the “speaker” directions to say to the “finder.” The trick is, they may not speak. Only the “speaker” may speak. Other team members must stay behind the start line and convey the directions using their body language.
7. The “speaker” must translate the messages they are receiving from the team into words that the “finder” will use to find the hidden object. The speaker must give directions using the cardinal points.
8. The “finder” does their best to follow the directions around the playing space in order to find the hidden object, while blindfolded.
9. Once the object is found, the team is successful and play begins again with a new team and a new hiding location for the object. Teams will begin to pick up on what worked and what didn’t work in other teams and should be encouraged to adjust their play accordingly.

Cardinal Points Game (Simple)

Materials & Set up:

Compasses (1 per team) or mark the playing space with North, East, South, and West on large posters around the perimeter.

“Start” location markers such as a flag, ball, anything really. (1 per team)

Large playing space (gym, field, etc)

Divide class into teams of five.

Printed directions (1 per team - next page)

Directions:

1. Assign each team a compass and a start location at one of the markers.
2. Hand out one set of directions to each team.
3. Ask them to follow the directions using their compass starting at the marker.
4. When they are completed with the directions, they should look down and see where they are. They should be back at the starting marker!