Cooperation Station

Target Audience: Youth 5-12

Description: Cooperation Station is a compilation of GEMS Group Solutions and 4-H Challenge! activities. The students work in cooperative learning groups of four and use clues to reach the correct solution to a cooperative logic challenge.

Format: Each session begins with a Group Challenge that fosters teambuilding and communication among the groups. The Group Challenge is followed by one of five cooperative logic activities from GEMS Group Solutions.

Session 1: Teamwork/SEARCHES
Students learn the definition of teamwork and state the qualities necessary for a team to accomplish a goal. SEARCHES requires students to use clues, picture cards, and the process of elimination to locate one object among many.

Session 2: Communication/BEAR LINE-UPS
Students use the skills of sorting, sequencing, teamwork, and communication to line up bear math manipulatives according to the clue cards.

Session 3: Following Rules/SECRET NUMBERS
Students play the game Claytionary to practice communication skills and work to find a particular number that has all the properties listen on the clue cards.

Session 4: Decision Making/COIN COUNT
Students place nickels, dimes, quarters, and pennies in a cup according to the clue cards. Then they count the coins; find the total number of coins; and the total value.

Session 5: Cooperation/MAPS
Students will learn basic map reading skills including understanding North, South, East, and West directions, the compass rose, and a map legend. Cooperation skills will be needed in order to complete their map.

Session 6: Putting it All Together
This session is designed to put all of the concepts of teamwork (communication, following rules, goal setting, decision making, etc.) together to work on various group challenges.

Cooperation Station curriculum and the activity kit can be borrowed for one month.