

Memory MAZE™



INTRODUCTION

Group initiative tasks are designed to offer “real” or “perceived” mental, physical, social and emotional challenges that are fun and rewarding. Within a trusting and supportive environment, these challenges are often successfully met through team problem solving.

Implementation of such activities requires careful planning and skillful facilitation on the part of the group leader. Each initiative outlined in the activities that follow present the potential for risk and possible serious injury. It is imperative that staff members incorporate safety measures that are carefully thought out, clearly communicated and consistently reinforced. In addition, it is important that each participant be informed of the potential for such injury should the identified safety procedures not be followed.

Group initiative tasks provide the opportunity to develop valuable skills like teamwork, leadership, problem solving, trust and communication. You and your students will have many memorable and meaningful experiences with this exciting learning tool!

The Staff at Everlast Climbing Industries



Memory MAZE™

STUDENTS USE PROBLEM SOLVING, TEAMWORK AND VISUAL MEMORY TO WORK THEIR WAY THROUGH AN INVISIBLE MAZE.



MEMORY MAZE ACTIVITY



MATERIALS NEEDED:
Memory Maze Grid, included
Memory Maze Card(s), included



PRIOR TO ACTIVITY:
Choose which Memory Maze card you intend to facilitate. Lay out grid in an open area of gym.



THE ACTIVITY:
Students line up next to the Memory Maze Grid and take turns trying to find their way through the invisible maze. Only one student may be on the maze at one time. The instructor holds the chosen Memory Maze Card, out of sight from students. The game begins with the first student stepping on a square. If that square is part of the maze, the instructor does nothing and the student continues to move to additional squares until an error is made. If the square is incorrect, the instructor makes a buzz sound and that student exits the maze the way s/he came in and goes to the end of the line. The next student in line must remember the correct path and try to advance the group. The activity continues until the pathway of the maze has been completed. At this point allow all students the opportunity to make their way through the maze. Throughout the activity, students will be communicating and working together to remember the path and to determine what the next square in the path might be.

For the purpose of differentiation, we have created three levels of Memory Mazes. Certain movements are allowed based on what level card you are using. The age and abilities of your students will determine which level card you choose. Be sure to communicate to your students which movements are allowed.

Beginner Memory Maze Card: Forward, left and right movements.

Intermediate Memory Maze Card: Forward, backward, left and right movements.

Advanced Memory Maze Card: Forward, backward, diagonal, left and right movements.



SAMPLE PROCESSING QUESTIONS:

1. How did the group make decisions regarding the best way to move through the Memory Maze?
2. If you helped to advance the group through the maze, describe how you felt.
3. If you were buzzed, describe how you felt.
4. What was the most challenging part of the activity? Why?
5. What was the most rewarding aspect of this activity?
6. Give several examples of group cooperation that you observed/experienced.
7. What did you learn from this activity?
8. If you were to do this again, what would you do differently?

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MEMORY MAZE ACTIVITY *CONT.*



CONCEPTS:

Memory, Problem Solving, Teamwork, Patience, Communication, Perseverance and Cooperation.



MEMORY MAZE ACTIVITY VARIATIONS:

1. To simplify this activity, students can place objects, like beanbags, on the correct squares to help them remember the correct way.
2. For added challenge, limit how students can communicate. For example: one word statements, no words just hand signals or allow only one person to talk.
3. Create a time limit.
4. Add some "daily double" squares along the way. If a student steps on one of these squares, s/he gets an extra turn.
5. Use blank maze to have students create their own Memory Mazes. (Fax your Memory Mazes to 651-665-9130 using the template provided. ECI will post them on www.traversewall.com for others to try!)
6. Try new memory mazes. Visit www.traversewall.com to download them.

Memory MAZE™

TEAM BUILDING RUBRIC



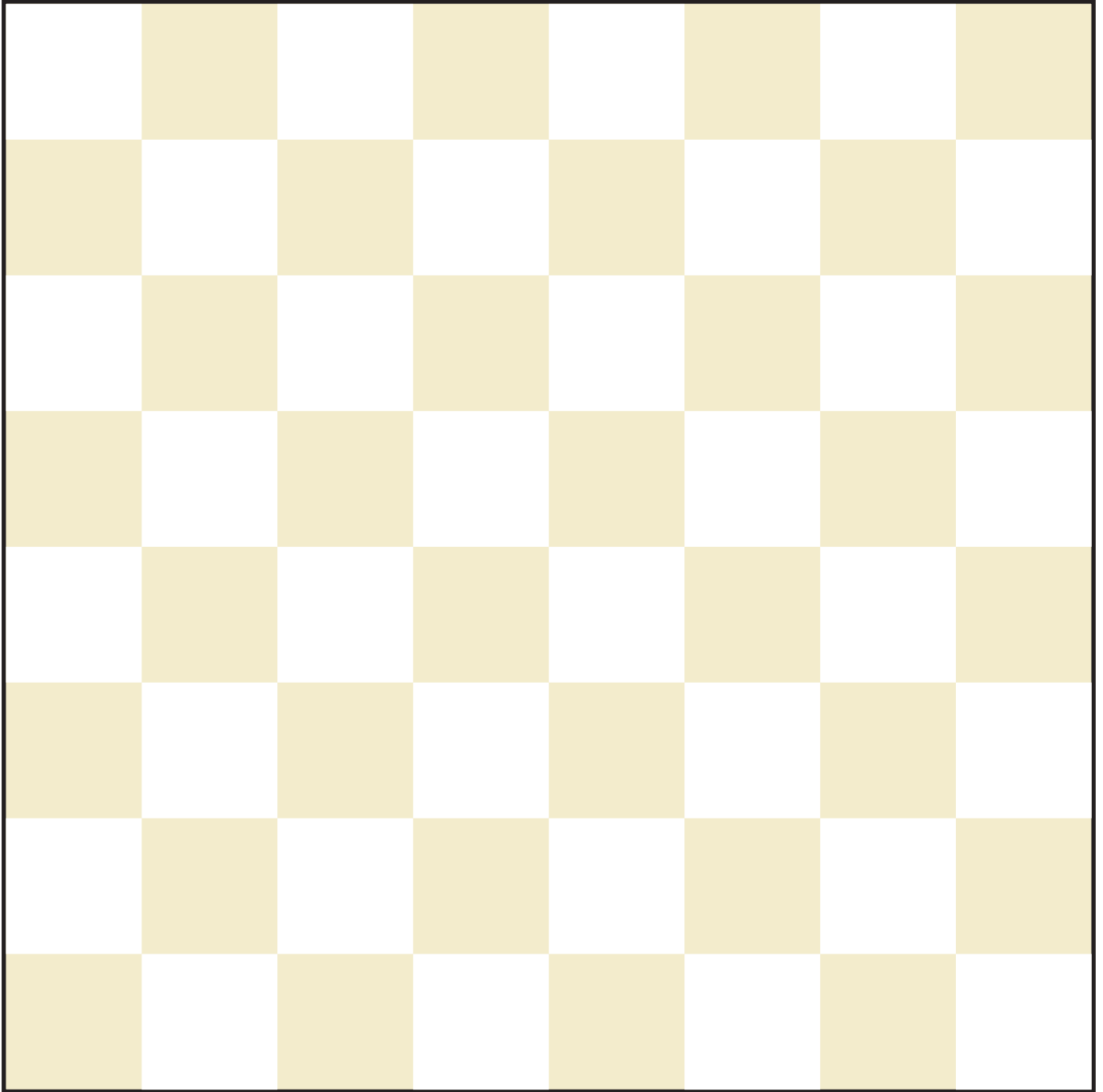
Name: _____ Date: _____

	Needs Improvement	Making Progress	Proficient	Not Assessed
Demonstrates interest in the activity				
Displays a positive attitude				
Demonstrates best effort				
Contributes ideas to help group succeed				
Communicates thoughts and feelings appropriately				
Works well with others				
Demonstrates leadership skills				
Supports and encourages others				
Listens respectfully to others				
Participates in group processing and reflection activities				
Follows rules and procedures				

Memory MAZE™

CREATE YOUR OWN MEMORY MAZE

Use the blank maze to create your own Memory Mazes. Fax your Memory Mazes to **651.665.9130**. ECI will post your Memory Maze on www.traversewall.com for others to try!



School Name: _____

City, State: _____