**Communication**

**Supplies:** 5 unusual objects, a set of index cards, a timer

**Procedure:**

Choose 5 unusual objects. Make a set of index cards, each with the names of the objects. Write a number 1-5 on each of the cards under the object. You will need a set of cards for each group.

Set-up: Arrange 5 chairs in a circle with the backs of the chairs facing the center of the circle. The first chair should be within reach of the cards. The last chair should be within reach of the objects. The first and last person should not be able to see each other.

**Instructions:**

Tell the students that their task is to create a nonverbal communication system to name the object and the order of the object on the card.

Each student in the group will sit in the chair.

The first person will choose a card and nonverbally communicate the object names and their order to the person on his/her right.

That person will nonverbally communicate the names and order of the objects to the third person and so on.

The group members have 2 minutes to discuss and decide on a nonverbal communication system. All members may talk at this time.

The group has 3 minutes to complete the task. No one may talk during the demonstration time or after the time has started to complete the task.

**Debriefing:**

How did you decide to communicate?

If someone didn’t communicate the message correctly, what happened?

What can we learn from this exercise that might help us to improve our communication with our instructors or other students?

Do we always need to use words?

If students tune out long-winded lectures, what are other options?