



The Number Game

Objective: To allow participants to discover (or reinforce) some principles of adult learning through “hands-on” activity.

Time: 15 minutes

Directions: Distribute eight copies of the number game to each participant. Ask them to place a blank sheet of paper over the numbers so they cannot see the placement of the numbers. Tell them this is a simple hand-eye coordination exercise in which they are to work as fast as they possibly can within a given time period. Then tell the participants to “remove the blank sheet of paper.

With pen or pencil, draw a line from #1 to #2, #3, etc., until I say ‘stop’. OK? Go!”

Allow 60 seconds; then say, “Stop. Please circle the highest number you reached and jot down the number ‘1’ in the upper right hand corner.”

Repeat this exact procedure for 6 or 7 more times, each time allowing 60 seconds. Make certain each sheet is numbered in sequence (#1, #2, up to #6 or #7).

Discussion Questions

1. In all candor, how did you feel when you were going through the exercise? (Note: Responses will be “nervous,” “frustrated,” “upset,” “mad,” etc.)
2. “Practice makes perfect.” If this is really true, we all should have shown a consistent increase in the number attained with each attempt. Is that true for each of you? If not, why?

Material Required: A quantity of Number Game sheets (4 per person, printed both sides).

Reference: Games Trainers Play