

Let's Communicate

Communication is harder than we think. To be successful, scientists must be able to communicate effectively with others and work well on a team. Accurate and clear communication between all team members is key to a team's success.

As a scientist or engineer, how well can you explain a design or instructions to a team member?

1. Face a partner so that you each have a box on its side and an identical set of blocks in front of you.
2. Decide who will be the **engineer** and who will be the **builder**.
3. The **engineer** will design and build a structure inside your box. Do not allow your partner (the builder) to see your structure.
4. Next, have the **builder** try to build a copy of the engineer's structure in their own box by following the engineer's directions only. The builder cannot ask questions and you cannot look inside each other's boxes.
5. When finished, compare the two structures. How well did the engineer communicate to the builder?
6. Switch roles and try again.