

# [WHEN PEOPLE PLAY]

## Shape Relay



**Activity Objective:** For a team to form a piece of rope into the given shape in the fastest time possible. Various shapes can be created. All shape options will be listed below in the variations.

**Facilitated Objective:**

To allow the group to discover the power of setting goals, planning and communication.

**Needs:** In this writing I use paracord. Four feet in length. Three cords tied at the ends to form a 12-foot piece for each group. A timer or stop watch for each group. A table for each group or open area in which to play.

**Numbers:** 5 to 10 people per group per table.

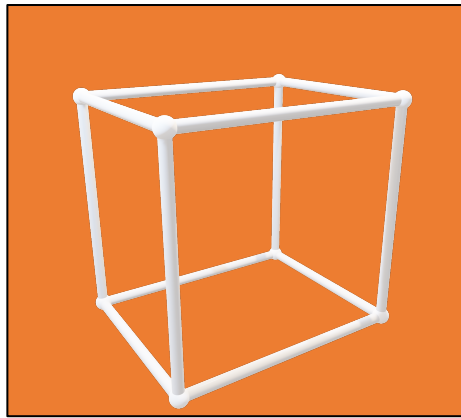
**Time:** For multiple rounds for improvement, allow for 15 – 30 minutes.

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## **Procedure:**

For preparation, tie the two ends of the rope together to form a complete loop. Or like in the video link below, ask the group to tie the rope together. Then, tell the group the following.

1. The goal is to create a 3D cube out of the rope as fast as possible. It will need to be timed from start to finish.
2. As a group, you will have the chance for multiple rounds to see how fast the group can improve.
3. The group cannot grab the rope until "GO" is called and timer starts.
4. Everyone in the group has to hold the rope at all times.
5. The group needs to bend the rope and create the cube together. The cube must have 12 edges and 6 sides. See picture.



6. Stop time when the cube is complete, record the time.
7. Before the second round, ask the group to set a new goal.
8. Repeat the above for a second round and record the time. Repeat for a third round if you have time.

**Facilitation:** When doing this activity just for fun, feel free to do just do the activity for speed and score. If you wish to facilitate the activity, it is best to set it up first. As mentioned in the rules above, use the time between rounds to ask questions, set goals or focus on the communication when sharing ideas. If you wish, use the variations below to add to or change the activity.

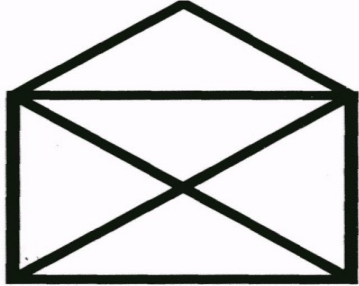
## **Observations/Questions:**

1. Did the group achieve their goal for the second and third ground? If so, what was that experience like? If not, what are the thoughts of the ground as to why?
2. What was the communication and planning like? Were all plans shared and or tried?
3. Was there a leader during this activity? Were they elected or was it natural? Was there shared leadership or responsibility?
4. What was the problem-solving process like? Did the group share in that process?
5. What were the noticeable differences in planning and communication between the rounds?

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**Variations:** (ways to change the challenge)

1. Have the group create a House or Envelope: This can only be created if the rope is untied. See the picture below.



2. Have the group create a Star: The rope stays tied in a loop. Inform the group that ropes do need to cross as shown in the picture below.



**Video Link:** Click the link below to see the video.

<https://youtu.be/43m-PuflmHc>