

Here Come the Commancheros!



OBJECTIVES:

- To simulate the flow of information
- To show how information may change as it moves through a system.

MATERIALS:

- Six or more different short, age-appropriate, nearly non-sense phrases printed on separate pieces of paper (i.e., "*Here come the Commancheros!*")
- Paper sack or bag to hold the phrases

EXERCISE:

1. Arrange the standing group in a circle with about half a meter between each person.
2. The group leader draws a phrase from the paper sack; reads it silently; then hands it to the teacher - without letting anyone see the phrase!
3. The leader begins the activity by whispering the phrase to the person on his/her right. No one else in the circle should be able to hear the phrase.
Whisper the phrase only once. No repetitions are allowed.
4. Each person whispers the phrase to the next until it gets back to the leader.
5. The last person says the phrase aloud. The leader reads the phrase as it is written.

PROCESSING:

- *Is the ending phrase identical to the beginning phrase?*
- *What happened as the phrase was passed around the circle?*
- *Why did this happen?*
- *How is this like information you find on the Internet?*