

TODDLER EMPATHY ACTIVITY

TEACHER PREPARATION:

The teacher will need to have these situations set up, as stations, before class. Leave a copy of the student instructions at each station.

SITUATION #1: Have copies of the mazes and black construction paper. Have these students tape their papers down to the desk while their partner holds the black paper and mirror so the student can only see the mazes in the mirror.

SITUATION #2: Get several small sweaters or turtle necks that have very small neck openings and are small for teenagers.

SITUATION #3: Have several very large plastic or paper cups filled to the top with water. Provide a towel and detergent for washing between groups.

SITUATION #4: You may wish to put a blanket on the floor. Have the students really exaggerate this situation.

SITUATION #5: Get a head band with weights attached to it, or get an artillery helmet from a surplus store. The object is to have the head be oversized and heavy.

SITUATION #6: Get a shirt with very small buttons and smaller button holes.

SITUATION #7: Have a stool available for students. The students legs should not touch the floor but dangle freely.

SITUATION #8: Make copies of a simple coloring book picture. Provide very dull scissors.

SITUATION #9: Have a timer and a simple puzzle. (Lauri puzzles are great for this!) Do not leave the puzzle in the box. The pattern is printed on the box and makes it too easy for high school students.

SITUATION #10: Have the students sit completely still for three minutes while they listen to a foreign language tape. Walk around the room and keep reminding them to be quiet. (Liken this to a toddler sitting through an adult's meeting.)

SITUATION #11: Give a short lecture while standing on your desk. (Liken this to a child always having to look up at a teacher who is much taller than they are.)

SITUATION #12: Have the students get the signatures of each class member. They must "walk" on their hands and knees. Have them observe how different things look from that angle. What is on the bottom of the table? Is the floor clean? etc.