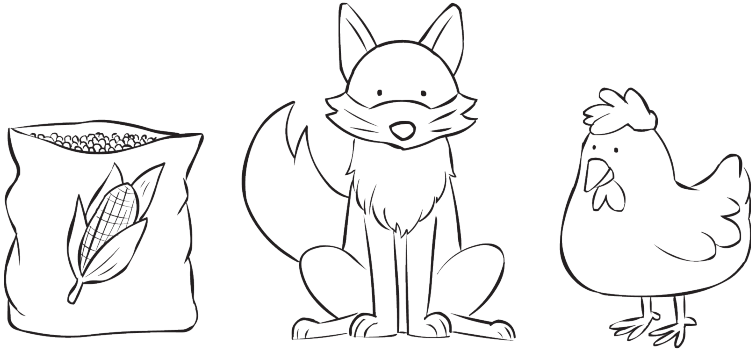


River Crossing



At A Glance

Classic team puzzle that focuses on critical thinking.

Benefits

- Passive
- Develops critical thinking
- Fosters creativity
- Multiple variations
- No props

Time 5 - 10 min

People Mini 1 – 7

How To Play

1. Form small teams of 2 to 5 people.
2. Challenge each team to solve an imaginary puzzle:
3. Using a small rowboat, how can they transport a chicken, a fox and a bag of corn to the other side of the river in as few moves as possible.
4. To govern fair-play, the solution must acknowledge three critical parameters:
 - The rowboat can only carry one person and one item at any point in time.

- The fox and chicken cannot be left alone; and
 - The chicken and the bag of corn cannot be left alone.
5. Describe the step-by-step solution to get all three items safely to the other side of the river.
 6. Allow ample time for discussion and trial-and-error.

Variations

- **Jealous Partners River Crossing:** Three married couples must cross a river using a boat which can hold two people (maximum,) subject to the constraint that no woman can be in the presence of another man unless her husband is also present.
- **Missionaries & Cannibals River Crossing:** Three missionaries and three cannibals must cross a river, subject to the constraint that at any time when both missionaries and cannibals are standing on either bank, the cannibals on that bank may not outnumber the missionaries.
- **Bridge Crossing:** Four people approach a narrow bridge crossing a river at night, but it can only hold two people at a time. They have one torch between them, and because it's dark, the torch must be used to cross the bridge safely. Each of the four people (A, B, C and D) travel at different speeds – 1, 2, 5 and 8 minutes respectively. When two people travel together, they must move at the slower person's pace. Can all four people cross the river in 15 minutes or less? Click here for the solution.
- **Physical Crossing:** Take a look at Magic Shoes to challenge your group with a physically-demanding traversing dilemma.

Leadership Tips, Video Tutorials & More

<https://www.playmeo.com/activities/fun-team-building-puzzles/river-crossing/>