



# **PORTHOLE**

## **CHECK LIST**

1. Before starting this event, you will have to install the permanent wall mounts (copper brackets). They can be installed in a doorway or similar area, as long as the space across is less than 40 inches. The brackets are intended to support the upper pole.
2. The other equipment needed includes: 1 adjustable/expanding aluminum pole, 4 non-locking carabiners, 1 red ring, 4 ten-foot lengths of multi-line rope. All ropes are enclosed in the gray bag, and the carabiners are in the maroon bag.
3. Indoors, once the top mounts are in place, attached the 2 pieces of multi-line rope to two carabiners, and attach the carabiners to the silver rings mounted on the red ring. Then tie the other end of the multiline rope to the expanding pole mounted in the doorway. Adjust the ring to the desired height.
4. The porthole can be used outdoors by tying off the four ropes between trees. Make sure the upper ropes are securely tied in order to support a person's body weight, even though this is not the intention of the initiative.

## **GROUP TASK**

The group will safely pass each member through the ring.

## **STORY LINE**

The group is stranded on the sinking Titanic, and the only escape is through a porthole.

## **LEADERSHIP STEPS/SAFETY CONCERNS**

1. The group will discuss the task and explain their plan to the leader before initiating the task.
2. The ring is adjustable, so it can be raised or lowered to meet the needs of your group. But make sure the ring is securely mounted before beginning this activity.

3. Spotting procedures should be re-emphasized. Utilize the “spotters ready” sequence. You should identify specific people to spot specific areas of the body as the person is being passed. The participant’s head/neck/spine should be supported and protected at all times.
4. The participant being passed through the red ring must have his/her head above his/her feet at all times.
5. No one should be pushed or pulled excessively through the ring.
6. The participant is not safe, and spotting does not cease, until both feet are safely on the ground.

## **VARIATIONS**

1. Leader decides how she/he wants the group to accomplish the task. Leader can have the group pass all members from one side to the other, ensuring that there are individuals on the other side to spot. The leader can have the group divide into two sub-groups, positioning themselves on opposite sides of the ring and alternating passing people from each side.
2. Leader can decide to not allow participants to touch any part of the ring as they are being passed through. She/he can also allow a certain number of “touches” for each side. The leader can decide if the whole group will have to begin again if someone touches.
3. The leader can impose certain physical limitations on group members, e.g., blind, mute, use of only one arm/leg.

## **DEBRIEFING TOPICS**

1. The porthole represents a barrier the group must overcome. How do participants differ in dealing with this barrier? How do they deal with barriers in their own lives?
2. Difficulty level — should the ring have been lower or higher?

## **DEBRIEFING QUESTIONS**

1. Did the group follow directions?
2. Did the group understand the instructions? Do you always feel you understand instructions at school/home/work?

3. Why did you not adjust the ring to a different height? Could you have?
4. What did the group accomplish?
5. How did the group organize itself?
6. Who took the leadership role? Roles?
7. Explain the planning process that went on.
8. Did you use all of your resources?
9. Who did you use the most? The least? Why? How does this happen elsewhere?
10. What types of communication were used to accomplish the activity?
11. What impact did success have on the group?
12. Where did conflict hinder the group?
13. What was the sequence of people who went through? Was anyone uncomfortable with their position? Too easy? Too difficult?