

## **Paired Drawing/Communication Activity**

Communicating well is a learned activity that involves a variety of skills including listening, speaking, monitoring understanding, and clarifying meaning.

**Objective:** This activity practices listening and speaking skills and demonstrates how easily misunderstandings and misinterpretations can happen.

**Supplies:** pencil, paper, simple line drawings

### **Procedure:**

- Divide students into pairs.
- Student #1 is given a copy of one of the drawings. Do not show the drawing to Student #2!
- Student #1 gives instructions to his/her partner without naming the object being drawn. (For example, if describing the butterfly picture, the student can't name what he's describing, but can say something like: "Draw 6 small circles in the middle of the page, one on top of the other... etc.) Student #2 may not ask questions.
- When the time is up, have students compare the drawing with the original and talk about the experience.
- Pass a second picture to Student #2 and have students swap roles. Student #2 will give the directions, but this time can answer yes/no questions and watch what Student #1 is drawing.
- What worked? What didn't? Was one role easier than the other? Did it help to be able to ask questions? Did it help to be able to watch the person drawing?

TOGETHER. APART. REGRET. NEW START?  
*A lesson to accompany SOMETIMES A WALL...*

