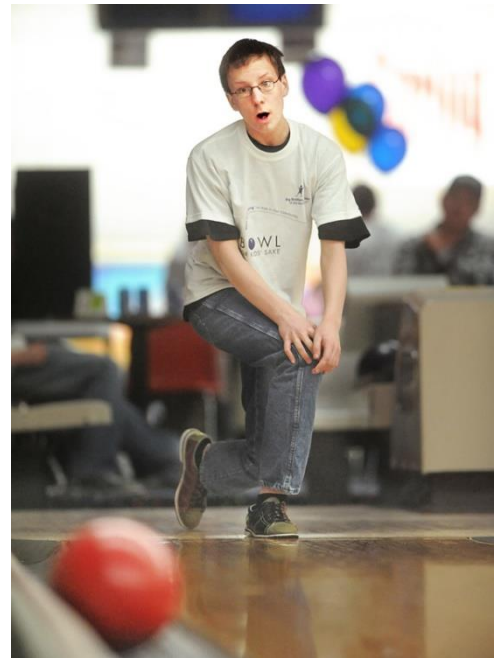


GUTTERBALL A COOPERATIVE LEARNING ACTIVITY

Instructions: Work as a team to roll a marble across a given course without touching the marble or letting it touch the floor. Each team member will receive a differing length of track. The team must develop a system for transferring the marble from one team member to another to move the marble across a given race track course seamlessly. The team that successfully traverses the course the fastest wins.

Limitations: Teams must adhere to the following limitations:

1. Team members cannot move their feet while the marble is in their individual piece of track.
2. The marble must roll the entire course—no throwing.
3. If the marble drops to the floor, or a team member touches the marble in any way, the team must start over.



Materials: Teams will require the following materials

1. Four pieces of guttering of differing lengths
2. One marble for each team
3. A stop watch or a mobile phone for keeping time
4. A course with a start-point and an end-point—described by the teacher

Teachers Guide: As the teacher, you can add obstacles between the start and end-points to make the activity more challenging. Divide the students into teams of four, let them come up with a plan, then measure the amount of time it takes for the marble to traverse the course. When finished, ask each team to discuss the cooperative plan that they developed and/or implemented to successfully complete the challenge.