

Pass the Message

Host sheet and 20 printable prompt cards

SUGGESTED ACTIVITY FORMAT



How to run the relay

1. Choose a small volunteer line; five is one suggested format. Leave room to turn, with later players facing away.
2. Show one prompt privately to the first player, then put the card away. Use one prompt per round.
3. The host cues the next player by name or an agreed visual signal. No physical contact is needed.
4. Each player acts silently for the next player only. Later players watch just their immediate predecessor, without seeing the original prompt.
5. Earlier players step aside without coaching. The final player guesses aloud; then reveal the original prompt.
6. Agree timing and any scoring before the round. Players may pass; a seated relay is an optional alternative.

Sample host opening

(illustrative wording; adapt to your audience)

"Would five volunteers like to try a message relay? You can pass if you prefer. Each person will act out what they saw for the next player, without speaking. Only watch the handover immediately before your turn. Our final player will tell us their guess, then we will reveal the starting prompt."

Sample host closing

"Our starting prompt was [original prompt], and our final guess was [final guess]. Thank you to our volunteers. Let us give them a round of applause."

Example first-round prompt: Ironing a shirt

Participation is voluntary; players may pass at any point. For large groups, a seated relay at each table is an optional alternative: the host shows one prompt to the first person at every table and the last person can announce their guess from their seat.

Suggested activity format, not a fixed hosting-package inclusion. Agree games, materials, prizes and preparation with the organiser before booking.

Pass the Message -- Prompt Cards

Cut out the cards. Show one to the first player only, then hide it before the relay. For parallel teams, print extra copies of your chosen prompt.

<p>#1 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Ironing a shirt</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#2 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Waiting for a lift and realising it is going up instead of down</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>
<p>#3 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Trying to open an umbrella in the wind</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#4 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Pouring coffee and spilling it on the desk</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>
<p>#5 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Walking a large dog that keeps pulling ahead</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#6 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Fishing a coin out of a vending machine slot</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>
<p>#7 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Carrying a tall stack of files through a narrow doorway</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#8 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Hailing a taxi in the rain</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>
<p>#9 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Blowing up a balloon and it pops</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#10 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Peeling a stubborn orange</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>

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<p>#11 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Brushing teeth while half asleep</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#12 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Fanning yourself at a bus stop on a hot day</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>
<p>#13 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Trying to thread a needle</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#14 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Photocopying a thick stack of papers</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>
<p>#15 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Wrapping a large awkward gift</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#16 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Catching a fly with chopsticks</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>
<p>#17 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Taking a group photo and someone keeps blinking</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#18 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Squeezing into a crowded MRT cabin</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>
<p>#19 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Searching for your keys at the bottom of a bag</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>	<p>#20 FIRST PLAYER ONLY</p> <p>Trying a presentation clicker with flat batteries</p> <p>emceejames.com</p>