









The magic bamboo stick

	<p><u>Timeframe</u>: ~ 20 mins</p>
	<p><u>Premises</u>: inside or outside</p>
	<p><u>Group size</u>: 6 individuals plus</p>
	<p><u>Materials</u>: A light bamboo stick approximately 2 metres in length (one stick per 6-8 individuals; correspondingly more sticks for larger groups)</p>
	<p><u>Process</u>: The participants stand in two rows facing one another. Their arms are stretched out in front of them with the index fingers of both hands extended. The trainer lays the bamboo stick across all of the participants' index fingers. The task for the group now is jointly to lay the bamboo stick on the ground without a single finger losing contact with the stick. As the exercise is usually not successful the first time round (the stick usually creeps ever higher upwards or the participants lose contact with the stick), the approach taken by the group there needs to be moderated.</p>
	<p><u>Goal / purpose</u>: The task sounds easy, but is not. The participants have to lower the stick at the same time or else someone will lose contact or the stick will topple and fall down. While the group is performing the exercise, the trainer observes the group processes and keeps track of who takes control of the group, who organises the situation etc.</p>
	<p>Questions for the subsequent discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Was it easy to put the stick down or not?- Where did the difficulty lie?- Why did it finally succeed?- How did you communicate?- Did someone take command?
	<p><u>Source</u>: PFIFF games pool, Hochschule Fulda, University of Applied Sciences</p>

