

Name: _____

Date: _____

Tragedy of the Commons ActivityMaterials

Small rocks – “fish”

Spoons – “fishing rods”

Cup – “ocean”

Procedure

You will be split up into groups of 5. 4 of the students will be “fishermen” while 1 student will be responsible for replenishing the “ocean”. The fisherman will have 10 seconds to fish and the student responsible for replenishing the ocean will have 5 seconds to refill the ocean. If at any point there are no “fish” left in the “ocean” then the person refilling the “fish” will not refill the “fish”.

1. Starting with 60 “fish” in each ocean, each of the 4 fisherman will fish for 10 seconds
2. After 10 seconds the teacher will instruct you to stop fishing and if there are any fish left, the other student will spend 5 seconds refilling the “ocean”.
3. The teacher will instruct you to stop refilling start fishing again.
4. Repeat steps 1 through 3 until told to stop
5. Each fisherman count the number of fish caught
6. The group with the most total fish wins a prize