

### **Judge the effectiveness of your one-way communication**

We all believe we're clear with our communication, even when we just tell someone something and walk away. We're dismayed when a co-worker, direct report or family member doesn't do what we told them to do. One-way communication is a recipe for miscommunication. Try this exercise to see how effective you are with one-way communication.

### **Activity 1-5**

#### **The risk of one-way communication**

**Please print this activity before completing it.**

Find a colleague, family member or friend to complete this exercise with by having one person turn his or her back while the other draws a simple picture.

The sender, without showing the picture they have drawn, will describe it to their receiver partner. The receiver will draw it from the verbal instructions only.

Throughout the exercise, the receiver is not allowed to ask any questions or offer any feedback to the sender.

Now switch places and complete the exercise again. When both of you have taken a turn as sender and receiver, complete the chart on the following page.

**Drawing space:**

**Drawing Space:**

### Debrief one-way communication

Sender	Receiver
How did you feel not receiving any feedback from the receiver?	How did it feel to be the recipient of one-way communication?
Did the receiver's drawing turn out the way you thought it would?	Did your drawing match the sender's description?
How certain were you that the receiver understood your instructions?	How certain were you that you correctly understood the senders instructions?

Share your findings in the **Discussion 1-2: One-way and Two-way Communication** topic in the Discussions area.