Team Building Activity:

*This is a nonverbal exercise.*

Have students form a single straight line according to birthdays. Persons with January birthdays will be at the beginning of the line. Have students get in order by date as well as by month. For instance, a person with a birthday of January 1 would be followed in order by later dates within the month of January. Persons with February birthdays would come next, in order from the first to the end of the month. The line progresses by months and days with December birthdays at the end. Persons with the same birthday share the same place in line. All communication is to be done non-verbally (no lip-reading or whispering allowed).

If anyone breaks that rule, he or she must return to his/her seat and is out. When the line is completed, each person will tell his/her birthday, beginning with January.

Points are added to the entire class’s grade if done correctly. Points are deducted for each person who is not in the correct order. Double points are deducted from everyone’s scores for each person out – those who are sent back to their seats for breaking the “no talking” rule.

Discuss afterward: what strategies were used to find the correct order? What worked well? What didn’t work? Would it have been helpful to have had a leader in charge of everyone? Why or why not?