NONVERBAL CHARADES

GRADES 6 – 8

COMMUNICATION: The ability to effectively communicate a message or an idea to someone else through verbal and non-verbal means. Included within this is the ability to know how and when to listen to others' communication and to use communication to build interpersonal relationships with others.

INSTRUCTIONS

Duration:

- 20 – 30 minutes

Materials:

- nonverbal charade cards
- Active Listener Archer

Modifications Provided

Differentiation Strategies Provided

The Nonverbal Charades activity requires students to practice their communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.

Explain to students that this activity requires them to practice their communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and problem solving skills.

Before beginning the activity, conduct a "mini-lesson" with your students about non-verbal communication. Additionally, explain to your students that even though their teammates will be communicating nonverbally, or without words, this activity still requires them to practice many traits of active listening. Using Active Listener Archer, remind students how they can practice active listening with their bodies, hands, feet, brain, and eyes.

Assemble students into teams of 2-6; this activity works best if students are put into teams randomly, and in groups of even sizes. Once students are in their teams, require each team to break in half; for teams of 4, there should be 2 groups of 2, for teams of 6, there should be 2 groups of 3, etc.

- **Differentiation Strategy:** to make this activity easier, put students into teams of 6, allowing students to work in groups of 3 when doing their nonverbal charade; to make this activity more difficult, put students into teams of 2, requiring students to work independently to do their nonverbal charade.

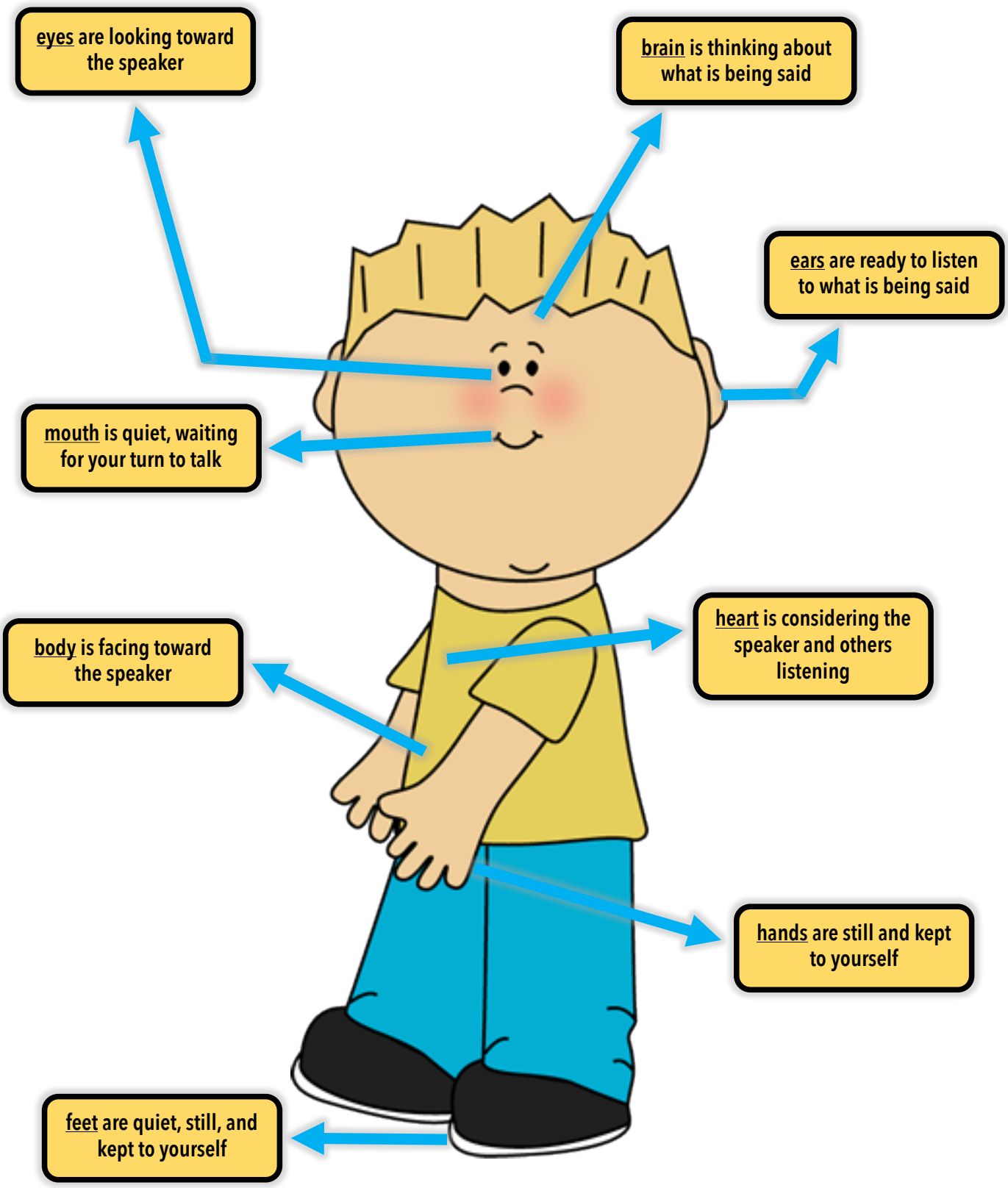
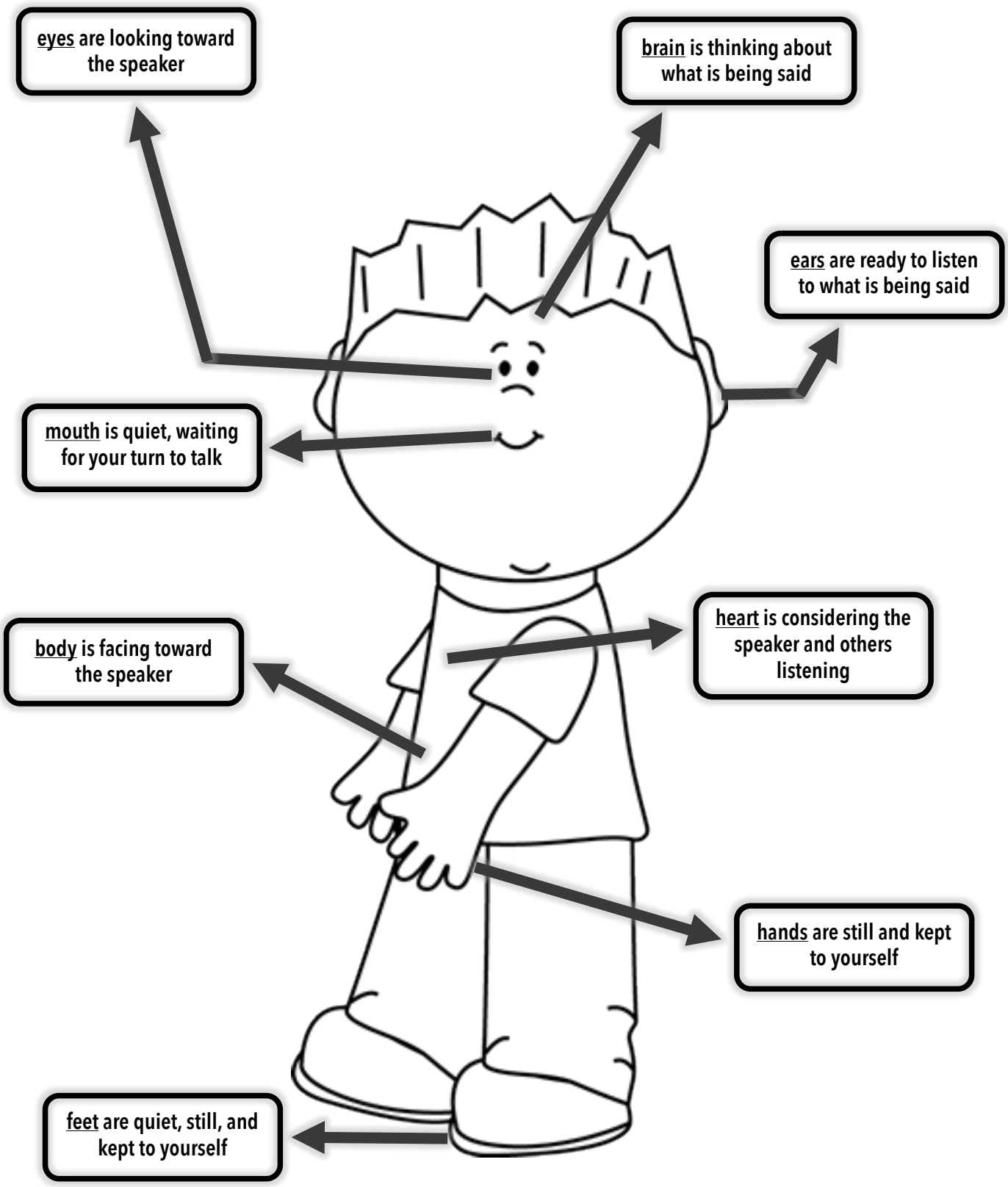
Next, each half of each team will receive a list of sentences in which they must come up with a way to nonverbally communicate them to the other half of their team. The half of the team not communicating must guess what the other half of the team might be nonverbally communicating.

Each half of the team will take turns switching back and forth between participating in the nonverbal charades, and guessing what their communicating. Repeat until students have gone through all of their nonverbal charade cards.

- **Modification:** allow students to do this within a given time constraint.
- **Differentiation Strategy:** play this game again, but using easier or more difficult nonverbal charade cards.

NONVERBAL CHARADE CARDS
Go away!
Good job!
Turn left.
I'm so excited!
This sucks.
Don't interrupt me!
Will you marry me?
I have something to say.
Mister, can you help me?

ACTIVE LISTENER ARCHER



ACTIVE LISTENER ARCHER