**KNOT GAME**

**Number of players:** 8-14  
**Space:** Room for a circle  
**Materials needed:** None  

**Procedure:**  
Everyone stands shoulder-to-shoulder in a circle. Have each player put his/her hands in the center and grab any two hands that a] don’t belong to somebody right next to them, and b] belong to two different people. [If you want to test this, pass a hand squeeze around the knot; everyone should get the squeeze exactly once.] Without letting go of each others’ hands, the group must untangle the knot. Note: If your group is large, divide up into 2 or 3 circles and play simultaneously.

**Possible side coaching:**  
- “Who can see what needs to happen next?”  
- “If one idea doesn’t work, try another tactic.”

**Variations:**  
Group must untangle the knot silently—using only non-verbal cues.

**Processing points:**  
- What did you have to do to untangle yourselves?  
- How were decisions made?  
- In what other situations might these skills be useful?

**Possible learning areas:**  
Problem solving, cooperation, leadership

**AKA:** Human Pretzel, Tangling

**Source:** The New Games Book