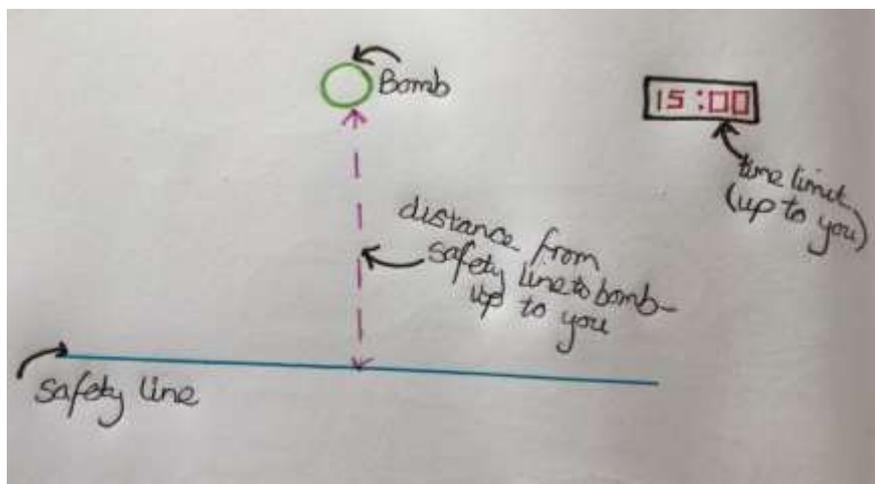**Any key stage:** Diffuse the Bomb game

Key skills: Problem solving/team work

Overview: A fun little exercise if you have more than one learner at home and a bit of space – the garden is ideal.
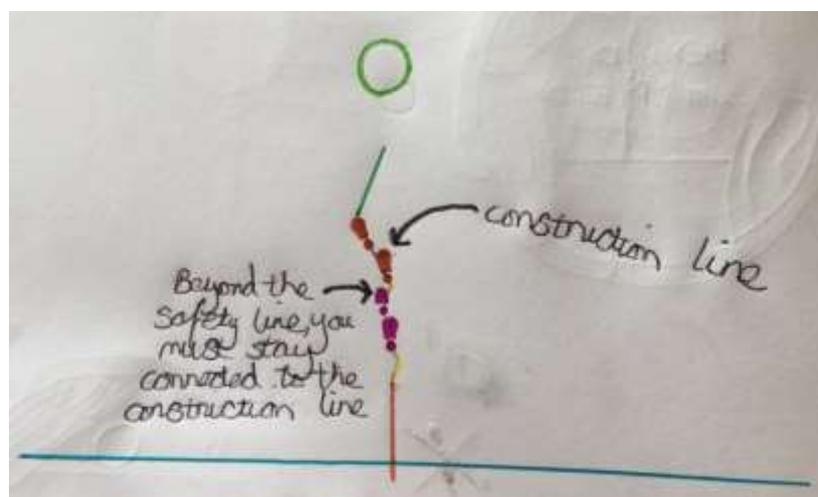
Instructions:

Pick something to represent the 'bomb' (Anything! Could be a mug, a garden gnome – whatever you have to hand!) – place this at one end of you space.

Make a line your desired distance from the bomb. The distanced is up to you – the bigger the distance, the more challenging the task – I'd recommend at least 15 paces. This line is the 'safety line.'

Give your team a set amount of time (15 mins for example) to reach the bomb and get it back to the safety line to diffuse it. This must be done by making a continuous 'construction line' out of items, from the safety zone to the bomb.
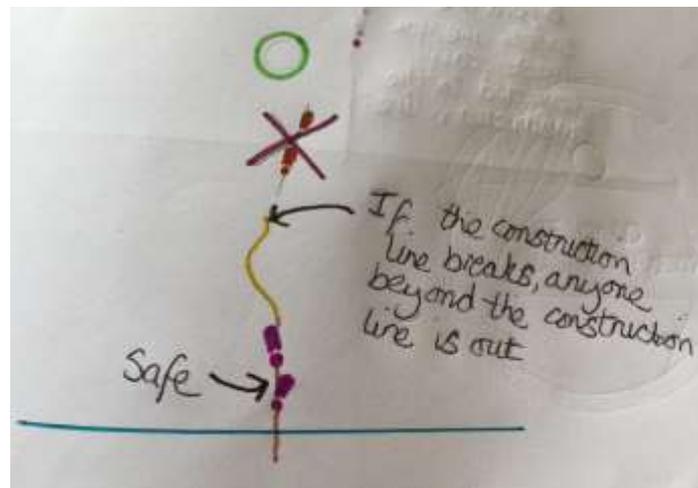
You might find it helpful to have a couple of items to hand that they can use to start to build the construction line, and set up some parameters of how far they can go to collect other items to help (e.g. you can't go into the house).

The game will encourage players to think laterally about what they can use and be innovative e.g. eventually, game players will think to use things about their person, such as hoodies and shoelaces to make the construction line.

Rules:

If anyone steps past the safety line, and is not in some way still connected to it (e.g. by keeping a foot behind it or being connected to the construction line), they are out.

If the construction line breaks, anyone who is past the break is out.

If everyone is out, they must start again.

If they run out of time, the bomb goes off and they lose.

If a continuous construction line is made to the bomb and it is brought back to the safety line within the allotted time, the team wins.

You can do this with two teams if you have enough people at home.

If the team is successful, play again with different parameters (shorter time limit, bomb further away, only twigs and sticks can be used to make the construction line).