

Equilateral Time

Activities for Collaborative Thinking

ICEBREAKERS AND TEAM BUILDERS TO BUILD COMMUNITY

OBJECTIVES

- To practice teamwork
- To experience different ways to lead

MATERIALS


- Movable chairs
- White board and markers
- Two blindfolds

SETUP

- In a large open space, set up ten to fifteen chairs in a circle.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Explain that the group will do an activity to **explore teamwork**. Ask the group to **pick two leaders**. (*NOTE: For this activity, it is important that the group selects the leaders rather than you select them.*)
2. Explain that while the leaders are still part of the group, they will have some **extra tasks** during the activity.
3. In round one, ask the group to **rearrange all the chairs into a triangle; only the two leaders can talk**. (Chart the time.)
4. Once they are done, have a few volunteers **place the chairs back into the large circle**.
5. In round two, **hand the two leaders blindfolds** and ask them to **cover** their eyes.
6. Have the entire group (including the two leaders) **link arms**. Once again, have them **move the chairs into a triangle without unlinking arms**. (Chart the time.)
7. Once they are done, have a few volunteers **place the chairs back into the large circle**.

CONTINUED 

Equilateral Time continued

8. In the final round, explain that the group will **repeat** the challenge one final time. They will do it the same way they did in round two, but this time they will have a few minutes to **discuss a strategy**.
9. Give the group **five minutes** to discuss and then have the group **shift around and link arms to perform the same task**. (Chart the time.)

DEBRIEF

- If the goal was to get the chairs into a triangle in the shortest time possible, which round was most successful?
- If the goal was to get the chairs into a triangle with the most group collaboration possible, which round was most successful?
- What changed when the leaders were blindfolded?
- What was hard about the activity?
- How could the groups have used the established leader differently?
- Did any new leaders step up?