

The Finish Line

Activities for Discussion, Reflection, Evaluation

ICEBREAKERS AND TEAM BUILDERS TO BUILD COMMUNITY

OBJECTIVES

- To acknowledge a group's completion of a project/phase
- To bring closure to a group

MATERIALS

- Rope

SETUP

- Lead up to this activity with a series of closing rituals, for example, the evaluation of their work, reflection on successes and failures, individual appreciations, and acknowledgement of key learning.
- Make a line on the ground with a large rope.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Have participants **stand** shoulder to shoulder in a **line** on one side of the rope.
2. **Ask** a few people to **shout out what some of the milestone moments in the group have been—successes, challenges, accomplishments, and memories.**
3. **Acknowledge** that **there have been tough moments and there have been successes, especially the success of the group staying together to the end.**
4. **Remind** the group that **they have been on a journey together and that regardless of who stays and who leaves, they will never be this group again. Allow time** for members to understand the finality of the moment.
5. **Say, "Now you have reached the finish line. This means the team's commitment to this process is complete."**
6. **Point** to the rope on the ground.

CONTINUED



The Finish Line continued

7. Explain that **the rope represents the "Finish Line."** Their final challenge is to **now cross the line together.** The entire group is to step **OVER** the line, and their feet should **touch the ground on the opposite side at exactly the same time.**
8. **Tell** the group, **"Once you have crossed, you may step away knowing that you have completed your work."**
9. **Say, "When you feel ready, you may cross the finish line."**
10. Once the group crosses the line, mark the moment with **applause** and **cheering.**

DEBRIEF

- This activity should actually be the final closing activity with no formal debrief needed.