



Team Lego Build

Purpose:

To illustrate the importance of a common goal, leadership and communication when working as a team to achieve an outcome.

Challenge:

Your team task is to build a structure with Lego bricks. (add additional parameters to suit the resources and time you have e.g. it must have at least 4 sides or be at least 10 bricks high, or be capable of supporting an empty mug)

Each team member will be given a piece of paper, which they must keep to themselves.

You are not allowed to talk / write words or numbers during the task.

Time:

Allow a max of 30 mins for the task. 5 mins discussion – no building!, 5 mins building in silence, 2 minutes reflection/chat (no building) then 15-20 mins building and talking. Allow 5-10 mins summary.

Facilitator:

The group will find this task very difficult to start with as they are focussing on their own objectives and not a common goal.

Note: Stop the task after a max of 10 mins (gauge the frustration in the room but do allow 5 mins to pass) and remind them that the objective is to build a structure with the parameters you imposed.

Confirm that the teams members can now communicate with each other and...

After another 5 minutes, add an extra instruction to all: Odd numbered layers cannot have any yellow bricks in them.

Summary:

Confirm the importance of clear communication, roles and processes.

Discuss how easy it is to assume others know your objectives.

If we don't share our objectives, they are harder to achieve.

Things change - Clear communication and processes make it easier to adapt to change



You must make sure that layers 2 and 4 only consist of yellow bricks

You have to make sure that layers 2 and 6 consist of exactly 8 bricks

You have to make sure that a maximum of 8 bricks are used in the 3rd and 5th layers

You have to make sure that the bricks that are next to each other in layers 1, 6 and 8 do not have the same colour.

You have to make sure that there are, together with you, two others and only two others who build in layers 4 and 8.

You have to make sure that only a maximum of 3 participants build (put bricks together) in layers 4 and 7.

You have to make sure that there are only red bricks in the 3rd and 5th layers of the building.

You have to make sure that the first layer (layer 1) of the building consists of exactly 10 bricks.