

Acknowledgements

Key Theme Areas – Team Development, Closure Activity, Connection, Celebration

In today's busy world we don't always create the space to acknowledge the strengths and efforts of each other, especially when we are working within a group or a team. Acknowledgment of individuals are also like a glue for a team. It can bring a group or team together very quickly.

Time: 5-15 minutes

Who For: Individuals, group members or teams

Instructions

This is an excellent bonding, or closure activity, and depending on your group numbers each person can select one or more person they want to acknowledge.

You may set this up by having people select a name out of a hat, for the person will acknowledge, or in a team acknowledge someone else. Ideally everyone will have the chance to be acknowledged by someone else in the group.

Ask participants to select a card which represents the essence of what the person adds to the team/group, or a photo which represents what they want to acknowledge the other person for. Perhaps you pick a ladder for a team leader who is always encouraging people to rise up, or a set of colored balloons for someone who is always making the time to celebrate others.

This is an excellent team development activity for intact, project and even virtual teams.

Acknowledgement involves recognizing another. As Pam Solsberg-Tapper writes, "it points to the inner thought or characteristics that the client demonstrated in order to accomplish an action."

Notes

Share your ideas with others

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Acknowledgement and celebration are essential for fueling passion, making people feel valid and valuable, and giving a team a real sense of purpose that makes it all worthwhile.

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Notes

SPARKER QUESTIONS

- What is the characteristic you want to acknowledge the person for?
- When you think of your person, where or when do you see them excel?
- What is the photo you want to use to acknowledge someone else in the group or team?
- What's the core message of that photo?
- Who does it represent?
- What's the connection you have with that person?
- How does this person embody the core of the photo?

VIRTUAL TIPS

This can be done with or without the cards. You can run the exercise using words, or hand drawn images as instructed.

POSSIBLE USES

- Team development
- Strengthening group connections
- Celebration
- Mid-program check in or celebration
- Closure activity

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