



Unit: Team Building

Skill 30: Identifying Types of Teams

Activity A: Team Types

Activity Skills:

Small group interaction, brainstorming, listening and discussion.

Leadership Skills:

Understanding leadership styles and team types. (prepare with Activities 7: Leadership Styles and 8: Leadership Situations)

Suggested Level:

Beginning

Time:

30 minutes

Supplies needed:

- Pencils or pens to write
- Worksheets (included)

Do Ahead:

- Make copies of worksheets

Source:

Developed by:
Logan Booth
AmeriCorps VISTA

Based On:
<http://greatsystems.com/teams.htm>

BACKGROUND:

For this exercise three different types of teams will be discussed. These team types are as follows:

Work/Task Teams: These are teams that are geared toward achieving the completion of a specific job or task. Generally, work teams work together on a regular basis and can last a very long time when they are effective.

Project Teams: A project team is the team type that would oversee and coordinate one or more work teams. Rather than having the completion of a specific task in mind, the project team's purpose is to make sure that overall goals are being met.

Focus Teams: Focus team types can be seen in many different types of boards or steering committees. This team type is dedicated to setting the direction and goals (or maintaining the, "focus") of an organization.

WHAT TO DO:

Discuss with the group the three team types. Discuss what kinds projects the different teams might work on – such as work teams being in charge of decorating an event, while project teams would decide on what type of decoration for that same event would be in line with the ultimate goal the organization, while a focus team would be the ones to determine that the event was needed and plausible in the first place.

Break the class up into smaller groups now, and pass out the provided work sheets to each participant. Instruct the groups to continue discussing the three team types with leadership styles in mind. They should record on the worksheet which leadership style the group thinks would be most appropriate to specific teams types.

TALK IT OVER:

Reflect:

- Was there only one leadership style appropriate to each team type?
- Why are some leadership styles more appropriate than others depending on the team?
- Why is it important to recognize what type of team you are operating within?

Apply:

- Which types of groups have you worked in in the past, or are involved in now?

Skill 30: Identifying Types of Teams

Activity A: Team Types

Notes:

- What team type do you think your leadership strengths would work best in?
- Have you ever worked in a dysfunctional team? Why didn't it work?

BEYOND THE BOX:

Optional Homework:

Look at your life and identify some kind of team unit that you work with on a regular basis, whether at school, work, the community or in your own family. What type of team is this? After identifying the team type, is there anything you can think of that might make the team work more smoothly?

Resources and Web Links:

<http://greatsystems.com/teams.htm>