

OPENING SESSION

Session Length: 30-45 Minutes

Learning objectives:

- Get everyone to know each other
- Small group teamwork
- Understanding the importance of Communication

Ideal Trainer:

Section Chief or Section Adviser



Materials:

- Flipchart with pre-made images
- Knex or Legos (simple, should take no more than 5 minutes to complete)
- Blank paper (1 per person)
- Pens

SESSION NARRATIVE

Introduction (10 Minutes): Welcome to (name of your event), we are going to start by getting to know everyone, learning a little bit about teamwork and communication. Have everyone pair up (youth with youth and advisers with advisers). Now you are going to get 30 seconds to tell your partner about you. After 30 seconds I will say switch and the other person will talk about themselves. At the end of the minute we will go around the room and you will introduce your partner to us.

(Remind them to include: Name, City, State, Position, and Lodge)

Time the first group and have everyone share.

Teamwork (10 -15 Minutes): Prepare a set of Knex or Legos with instructions; break the group into smaller groups so there are an equal number of people with each set. Give them 5 minutes to follow the instructions and build the set. Once the 5 minutes is up have them take apart the set and build their own creation. Make sure to really limit them with the 5 minutes.

Debrief: Go around the room and ask for comments on how each group completed the first set. Did different people take on different roles? Then ask about what they made for the second 5 minutes. Have them explain what they made and how they did it. Which one was easier? As you can see our year together is going to be just like this activity. There are plans for some things we will do and for other events you will have to make it up from scratch. In both instances we have to remember we are under a time limit. The Conclave is going to come on (date of conclave) and we have to be ready for it. Hopefully we all realized that because you worked as teams the project with the time limits was manageable. Our year is going to be this way too. We need to work together to develop our finished project.

Communication (5 – 10 minutes): Our next activity is going to show us the core of how we are going to be able to accomplish anything project we take on. Find your youth or adviser (for example Lodge Chief A with Lodge Adviser A, CVC of Training with Training Adviser). Put your chairs back to back with the youth facing me at the front of the room. Advisers grab the blank sheet of paper and a pen and something to write on. Make sure the Adviser can't see the front of the room. Show the youth your flip chart page with one of the images from the end of this syllabus or your own. Give them half the allotted

time to describe the image to the advisers as they draw what the youth is describing. After the allotted time cover the image and have the youth and advisers switch places. Repeat the process with a different image, this time having the youth draw as the advisers explain. Once the time is done have both look forward and show the two images.

Debrief: Communication is blamed for most problems in planning events. As you can see, what you think you're saying and what someone hears are two different things. Remember this process of communication:

- What you want to say
- What you think you say
- What you actually said
- What they heard
- What they think they heard
- What they think you meant

It's important that the information at the first step and the last step are the same. You are going to communicating a lot this year together. Before moving forward make sure you completely understand what is being said by your youth or your adviser. If you have questions, ask them.

Closing (5 minutes): Now that we know each other a little better, understand the importance of working as a team and the difficulties that come with communication we can start the process of planning an event that inspire the youth of our Section.

SUGGESTED IMAGES

