

The Team Training Tower

And Other Creative Methods of Team Communication Training

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Materials Needed (per team):

- 1 - Lego Duplo Building Mat
- 36 - 1 x1 Size Duplo Lego Bricks
- 24 - 1x2 Size Duplo Lego Bricks

Additional Materials:

- Flip Chart
- Markers
- Containers to hold/store Lego Duplo Bricks

Exercise Set-Up:

1. Divide group into teams (roughly 6-8 people per team).
2. Follow Instructor Script (provided below).

INSTRUCTOR SCRIPT**Exercise 1****Instructions:**

You will have 1 minute to build the tallest tower.

Rules:

- You must use the building pattern of 1 large, 3 small blocks, repeat.
- No two blocks of the same color may touch.
- All materials are located at the front and back of the room. Runners may only take 5 items from the table at a time.
- Runners are not allowed to build and builders are not allowed to run.
- Any unused materials that are not replaced to their spot at the front of the room when time is called will detract one block (for each unused item) from the overall height of the tower.

When finished: Each group will report number of blocks high (minus unused blocks).

NOTE(S) FOR INSTRUCTOR:

It might be helpful to have an image or model of a mock-tower available for participants to view prior to the start of the exercise.

Exercise 1 Debrief

NOTE(S) FOR INSTRUCTOR:

Instructor Models Debrief for Exercise 1. Following subsequent exercises, the instructor may ask for a volunteer participant to lead the debrief.

DEBRIEF 100 LEVEL SKILLS:

Leadership

Requests

Cross-Check

Check-Back

Call Out

SBAR

Decompression Time:

1 – 2 min

Allow the trainees to chatter, talk, laugh and ‘decompress’ with each other and talk about what they did for a minute or two

Simulation Debrief:

3 - 5 min

Ask:

- What went well; What did you do well?
- What could you have done better?*
- What will you do differently next time?

**By asking what they could have done better – in any debrief you are conducting – the trainees will usually mention most of the improvement points you wanted to discuss, thus you will not be seen as just criticizing them.*

TeamSTEPPS Debrief:

7 - 10 min

As participants respond, rephrase their responses back to them as TeamSTEPPS skills that will be covered in the training. If one of the skills is not brought up after each group responds, bring up that skill briefly afterward.