

PEANUT PARADE

Philosophy

Teams are successful when the members recognize and value the individual contributions of all members.

When to be used

Use this activity when the squad needs to focus on respect for each other.

Process Gather these supplies prior to the activity:

A supply of unshelled peanuts—1 per class member.
(or any fruit or vegetable.)

1. Scatter peanuts on the table and have each squad member select one. Instruct them to get to know their peanut through all of their senses, by touching it, smelling it, rolling it, shaking it and examining it closely. For fun, have them name their peanut.
2. Collect all of the peanuts and mix them up. Next, pour the peanuts on a table in front of the class for the entire group to see.
3. Have each member come forward, either all together or in small groups, and attempt to locate his/her peanut. If conflicts arise over their choices that cannot be reconciled, note them and use them in the following discussion,
4. Use these discussion questions to help develop the purpose of the activity.
 - a) How many feel that you did not get your own peanut?
 - b) How were you able to distinguish your peanut from the others?
 - c) In what ways was your peanut unique?
 - d) In what ways are individual members of our team unique?
 - e) What correlations can you see in this exercise between the differences in peanuts and the differences in people?
 - f) Why can't we get to know people as quickly and easily as we did our peanut?
 - g) The shell protects the peanut seed. What type of "shells" do people have to protect themselves?
 - h) Why did you select your peanut? Did shell characteristics such as blemishes, texture, and even color effect your choice?
 - i) Do skin characteristics such as blemishes, texture, and even color effect the way we interact with other people? Why?
 - j) Did you hear people putting peanuts down? What correlations can you make with peanuts and individuals at our school?
 - k) What can we do as a team to help all group members feel accepted?
 - l) What can we do, as leaders, to help all "peanuts" at our school feel accepted?

