

WORK ETHIC

INTRODUCTORY

**TEAMWORK MAKES THE
DREAM WORK**



SKILL ADDRESSED:

Work Ethic

LEVEL OF CHALLENGE:

Introductory

TITLE OF ACTIVITY:

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work



INTRODUCTION TO THE SKILL

We have all experienced teams where one or more people weren't pulling their weight, were causing difficulties and/or being disruptive, took over the dynamic and didn't include everyone in the discussion, etc. Therefore, we can all speak with some authority on the values that we associate with being not being a good team member, as well as the traits we look for in supportive colleagues.

By reflecting on and unpacking what it means to work poorly in a team, we can identify and better appreciate the responsibilities that each of us has as a conscientious team member. This is an important step in the process of learning about work ethic, as having strong work ethic is often cited as a key value in effective team-workers.

In this activity, you will be asked to describe your ideal team members and discuss some of the responsibilities they have to their peers.

THE CHALLENGE

You have been asked to put together a team for a challenging work project. There are only five spots available, and each one must be occupied by someone with one major positive trait (Example: Mary, because she is always punctual). You can think of real examples or make them up. Maybe you think Rihanna would be a good team member! Why? Perhaps Captain America would be an effective leader?

To complete this challenge, break into smaller groups of three or four participants and take a few



minutes to assemble your team. Then, come back together and take turns sharing some of the choices you made. What are some of the recurring traits that people associate with being a good team member? Make a note of any answers that stand out to you, or that seem to come up very often.

STRUCTURE

To help you, please follow these tips/pieces of advice to solve the challenge posed:

- How would your perspective differ depending on the nature of the challenge, or the industry it takes place in? Would you build different teams for retail and construction, for example? Would your team for a presentation be the same as one you would assemble to do research?
- Do you agree or disagree that certain skills and responsibilities associated with teamwork apply to every type of team - and why? It is important to look from different perspectives, and weigh different options, to help make an informed decision.
- How would you solve the problem of clashing personalities or creative differences within your team? Try to imagine some interesting solutions to issues such as these.
- Can you give an example of some things which your chosen team might struggle with?
- It might be beneficial for you to create a SWOT Analysis (Analysing the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats of your team) when assembling your team. Instead of Opportunities and Threats, you could consider examining Synergies and Threats. What team members do you think would work well together? What members might struggle to get along?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- [SWOT Analysis Template](#)
- [Roles & Responsibilities of Effective Teamwork](#)



DEMONSTRATION AND EVALUATION

While completing this challenge, you and your group will have identified some of the responsibilities a person should have to work effectively as part of a team, as well as the critical skills and positive traits which apply across many or all industries and challenges.

SELF-REFLECTION:

- What did you learn when completing this challenge? Why is it important to know?
- Did any of the answers given by others surprise you? Why?
- Do you feel that you did an effective job of communicating your opinion to the other members of the group?
- If you could do this challenge again, what would you do differently?

Congratulations! You have now completed the Introductory Work Ethic challenge. To engage with some of the concepts you have learned thus far, we encourage you to complete the final assessment quiz. To learn more about Work Ethic, please advance to the next level (Intermediate).





INTERFACE



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