

Team Tower

The Team Tower Activity is ideally suited for newly formed teams, but it can be useful for teams that have not progressed far in working together and in making decisions.

In a short period of time, the teams are asked to complete a project starting with no leadership, no plan, and no specific tasks.

Many elements of teamwork arise through the activity, and besides being a fun “energizer,” it can start people thinking about the benefits of working in collaboration for a common goal.

DON'T FORGET TO DO THE DEBRIEF! IT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE ACTIVITY.

Purpose	Two or more teams of 3 to 5 members each are to build a tower of balloons. The object of the activity is to build the tallest free-standing tower.
Materials	Provide each team with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 40 –60 balloons• one roll of masking tape
Time	The entire activity should take approximately 40 minutes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Setup and give directions = 5 minutes• Allow team to work on tower = 25 minutes• Debrief the experience = 10 minutes
Directions	After providing each team with the balloons and the tape, and allowing each team sufficient room to work, give these directions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each team is to build a tower that will stand up without additional support using only the balloons and the tape• The team with the tallest tower wins• The teams will have 25 minutes to complete the tower
Debrief	At the end of the 25 minutes, direct teams to stop. Determine the winner of the contest. Ask of all participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How long did it take to actually get started on the tower?• Did you create a plan? When?• Did team members perform specific tasks?• Did a team leader emerge? How? When?• What challenges did you face? How did you overcome them?• What did you learn about teams coming together?