

What Is Teampplay?

by Barry Jolliff

Teampplay is team building. It is a series of activities where a small group of people learns to work together as a team.

Activities are chosen to build confidence, co-operation, teamwork, creativity, trust, decision making, conflict resolution, resource management, communication, effective feedback, and problem solving.

What Happens at Teampplay Seminars?

Activities—yes, this is a hands-on, learn-by-doing seminar. Activities are chosen to fulfill the needs of the group. Some activities require thinking; some may rely on past experiences; other activities may require some physical brute strength or just creativity. Not all members of the group have the same strengths or prior experiences, and a teampplay goal is to demonstrate the different strengths of the different members of the group.

Some of the activities can be active, where your group may have to move from one place to another via a magic carpet or a life raft. During a semi-active activity, you may be asked to pass an ingot through marble tubes. Some activities are quiet, where you might sit and build something or come to a group decision about a pile of striped multicoloured ropes. All activities are a challenge by choice and individual decision. Most activities are from the book *Teamwork & Teampplay*, by Jim Cain and Barry Jolliff.

For Teampplay Leaders

Seminars can be designed for team-building instructors, such as camp counsellors, summer staff, or teachers wanting to use some team-building activities in their classroom.

Seminars can also include making several of the props that are used in team-building activities. We could be cutting PVC pipe, string, and rope, learning specific knots, or making Funderbirds and Hose Balls. We could even make Swamp Stompers.

The Toy Box is a kit of team-building equipment that I build and assemble. I feel this equipment is what is often needed for the beginning team-building leader. More information on the Toy Box can be found on my website at www.teampplayllc.com.