

Thought for the Day

Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.

William Butler Yeats

The inspiration for this component of the Teamwork & Teamplay cards comes from the creative genius of Kirk Weisler (kirkweisler.com). You can use these wonderful quotations as an opening activity by presenting each person with a card and inviting them to meet others, share their quote, trade cards and continue this process for a few minutes. At the end of the activity, invite several people to share the quote they found most significant.

You can further use these quotations to explore the character words and themes found on each card, and as a closing activity by asking your group to select the quote that most accurately describes or inspires them at the completion of the program. Kirk also suggests that you can select quotes that speak to a need you see in your team's future or one that can be used as a focal theme when your group returns to the workplace or classroom.

The Big Question

*Of all the words your friends use to describe you,
which one is your favorite?*

The three different colors reflect three different levels of ice-breaking questions on each card. Question 1 (red) is the beginner level and can be used when most participants do not know each other. Question 2 (blue) is the intermediate level. Question 3 (green) is the advanced level, and should be used with groups that are familiar and well acquainted with each other. To facilitate The Big Question, present one card to each participant and instruct them which level (color question) the group will be playing. Invite each person to find a partner. Next, one person in each pair reads the question on their card and their partner answers it. Then the second person reads their question, and the first person answers it. When the conversation is complete, these two people trade cards (so they each have a new question card), and raise the card high into the air above their heads. This is the universal sign for "I am looking for a new partner." When new partners are found, the process begins again.

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Teamwork & Teamplay Cards

With this collection of cards, you can facilitate over a dozen powerful team and community building activities. In addition to the 52 cards in a typical deck, this collection also includes additional debriefing cards, puzzles, challenges, icebreaking questions, character building activities, games and instructions for helping you utilize the power of these cards to the fullest. For even more team activities with cards, see the new book *400 Index Cards* by Jim Cain.

1. Thirteen Clues – Four different mysteries to be solved.
2. Thought For the Day – Inspirational quotes and messages.
3. The Big Question – Three levels of icebreaking questions.
4. Character Match Game – Exploring character actively.
5. Thumbprints – A visual debriefing activity.
6. I Doubt It – A simple card game that explores trust.
7. Personal Pyramid – A presentation of personal values.
8. Hieroglyphics - A linguistic challenge for groups.
9. Acronyms - A second linguistic challenge for groups.
10. Treasure Hunt – A mathematical group discovery activity.
11. Card Tricks – Jim's three favorite card challenges.
12. Tongue Twisters - A third linguistic challenge for groups.
13. The 15th Object - A game with a teachable moment.
14. Are You More Like? – Conversation and choices.
15. Pass the Deck - A fast-paced problem solving activity.
16. Stack the Deck - A fast-paced sorting activity for groups.
17. Watch 4 It - Real life examples of character words.

Teamwork & Teamplay Cards
were created by Jim Cain. For
more teambuilding ideas, books,
props, games and activities, visit:
www.teamworkandteamplay.com

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