

GRAB BAG

TIME 20–30 minutes

SUPPLIES

- › Miscellaneous items (such as bouncy balls, stuffed animals, buckets, measuring cups, markers, and modeling clay)

THE GAME Place random items in the middle of your group circle. Ask each person to think of an item that best describes one of the following:

- › His or her contribution to the group (personality, talent, expertise)
- › The group identity
- › The work they did on a project and what they accomplished
- › The values they see the group uphold

In turn, invite each team member to hold up “her” or “his” item and share with the group why they chose the item and how it best represents the question posed. Challenge players to listen closely to one another so they can celebrate and build upon one another’s skills, talents, and insights. As each player shares, ask the group if anyone has additional comments that relate to what was said. You might ask if others can think of strengths or contributions that the member didn’t mention or notice in her- or himself.

POSTCARD VARIATION Instead of objects, bring a variety of postcards for players to choose from and ask them to explain their choice of card. “Our team is most like this postcard because . . .” or “My contributions or my experience of the group is most like this postcard because . . .”

PERSONAL KEYS PUZZLE

TIME 20 minutes

SUPPLIES

- › Large piece of butcher paper cut into puzzle pieces (one piece per player)
- › Markers
- › Clear tape

THE GAME Give each player a puzzle piece. Ask players to write or draw the personal characteristics that they bring to the team. Tape the puzzle pieces together as each person shares some of their personal assets with the rest of the team. Celebrate the power of your team and *the many things your collective strengths can accomplish*. Post the completed puzzle in a visible location as a reminder that the group is more than the sum of its parts.