

PORTABLE SKILLS

OBJECTIVES

To create team identity and build team spirit by helping members to learn more about each other.

To establish self-disclosure as a team norm.

MATERIALS REQUIRED

3 × 5 cards, pins or tape.

PROCEDURE

Explain that skills are portable and every member of the team is bringing a briefcase or box full of knowledge and skills to the team. This next activity will help us to discover individual strengths that will make us a productive team.

Distribute 3 × 5 cards.

Ask participants to write their names on the cards and below their names list two specialties or skills that they bring to the team, e.g., knowledge of statistical process control, organizational skills, or proposal writing.

When participants complete the cards, have them pin, tape, or hold the cards up in front of them as they circulate in the room, allowing others to engage them in exploratory conversations about the items.

This activity illustrates that there is always something new team members can learn about each other that will increase rapport and make the team members aware of each other's strengths and applicable experiences.

