

ALL THE NEWS

Entry Level Challenge

1. Newspapers are wonderful for creating all sorts of things. Each team member is given a full sheet of a newspaper. In Part 1, they have five minutes to fold it any way they want to create costume parts. In Part 2, the team has two minutes to tell a story about these costume parts, each person taking a turn. They will receive 1 point to a common answer and 3 points for an answer that creatively furthers the story.

Variations:

1. The team has three minutes to put on a skit using their costume parts. Note if all five team members are contributing equally. An advanced variation of this problem would be to have the team select an aspect of their performance that they thought was the best, and have them say why, to be given a special style score. This enables team members to evaluate their work, come to consensus, and take some direct responsibility for an area of their efforts to be scored.

2. Each person gets a full sheet of newspaper. They must combine their efforts to make one creation. Part 2 is the same as above.

Advanced Level Problem

1. Coaches: Part 1: Take the front page of a newspaper (screen it to make sure it is appropriate for the age of the team) and give it to the team. Each team member must look at only the headline of each article and create a new story. Each person is given exactly one minute to tell their new news story. Team is scored on the creativity of their individual stories, 5-25 points per story. Part 2: the team has one minute to decide which story they thought was most creative, and brainstorm. The team will then have two minutes to present the enhanced story as a team, going in turn and each providing a part of the story for scoring 1 point for a common enhancement to the story, and 5 points for a creative enhancement of the story.

Coaches: Teach your team the process of how to quickly come to consensus. Games that link together ideas can be used to enhance this skill. Also, try activities that make the team members depend on each other to solve problems.