

# Team Power

Some teams work better than other teams.  
Why do you think that is?

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**Good teams have three kinds of people**



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2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Watch the Build a Tower, build a team Ted Talk.**

**Answer the following questions**

1. Why do you think business graduates are least successful?

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2. Why do you think kindergarten students are most successful?

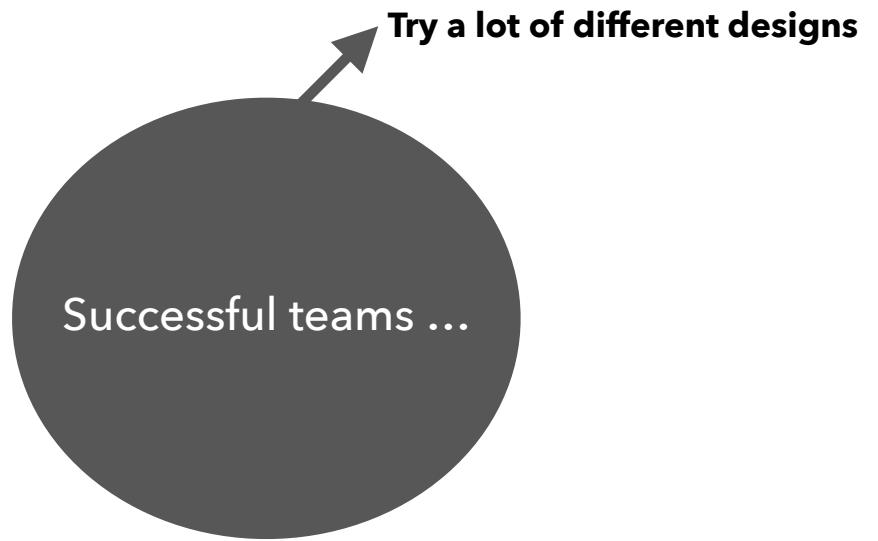
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3. "Jockeying for position" - What does that mean? And why might it be a problem in group work?

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4. "They have special skills of facilitation." - What does facilitation mean?

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### Critical Thinking - Reflecting

How well do you think you and your classmates would do with the marshmallow challenge? Give reasons for your answer.

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### Critical Thinking - Applying

What kind of structure would work best? Work in pairs or individually and design the best structure on paper. You have 20 sticks of spaghetti, tape, string, and a marshmallow.

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## The Marshmallow Challenge.

- Work in groups.
- In 20 minutes, build the tallest freestanding structure out of 20 sticks of spaghetti, tape, string and one marshmallow. The marshmallow must be on top.

### Detailed Instructions.

- **Build the Tallest Freestanding Structure:** The winning team is the one that has the tallest structure measured from the table top surface to the top of the marshmallow. That means the structure cannot be suspended from a higher structure, like a chair, ceiling or chandelier.
- **The Entire Marshmallow Must be on Top:** The entire marshmallow needs to be on the top of the structure. Cutting or eating part of the marshmallow disqualifies the team.
- **Use as Much or as Little of the Kit:** The team can use as many or as few of the 20 spaghetti sticks, as much or as little of the string or tape. The team cannot use the paper bag as part of their structure.
- **Break up the Spaghetti, String or Tape:** Teams are free to break the spaghetti, cut up the tape and string to create new structures.
- **The Challenge Lasts 20 minutes:** Teams cannot hold on to the structure when the time runs out. Those touching or supporting the structure at the end of the exercise will be disqualified.

### Critical Thinking - Reflection.

Think about a team you are part of. Are you usually the expert, organiser, or experimenter?

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Reflect on today's activity in your **journal**.

- ▶ What worked, what didn't work, and why?
- ▶ What was easy/difficult about the activity?
- ▶ Were there any problems in your group?
- ▶ What did you learn about working in a team?

### Critical Thinking - Interpreting.

What do you think the speaker means when he says "Every project has its own marshmallow?"

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Why do some teams not finish their towers?

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