

Teamwork Badge



Teamwork is about working together to solve challenges and get things done. Everyone in the group should succeed so that nobody in the group loses - everyone is a winner. Perseverance is key. It is important for girls to understand that success doesn't always come easy. Failure only means the need to try again or to re-think strategies.

Otter: Do 4 requirements including the 2 starred

Dolphin: Do 5 requirements including the 2 starred

Butterfly: Do 6 requirements including the 2 starred

Eagle: Do 7 requirements including the 2 starred

_____ 1.* Discuss with a parent or leader what teamwork means. Why is it important? Where and when might you use it? Come up with your own definition of the word "team." You may wish to use the word as an acronym such as "Together Everyone Achieves More." What other definitions can you come up with?

_____ 2.* Discuss different decision making strategies within a group. How do you resolve conflict on a team? How can you compromise? Is there a leader? Does everyone have a specific job or do you work on everything together? What are the advantages of each approach? Discuss how the following terms affect teamwork:

Trust, cooperation, respect, support, communication, perseverance, sportsmanship, patience, sharing

_____ 3. Build something with a team of friends such as a marble run, Lego creation, or fort. Make sure that everyone gets to be equally involved. Observe how decisions are made

_____ 4. Be a part of some sort of team. This could be a sports team, dance team, band, etc. What is good sportsmanship? How should your team behave if they beat another team in a competition? How should you behave if you lose? How should you treat others on your team?

_____ 5. Play the "Iceberg" game. Spread a sheet out on the floor to represent an iceberg and have a group of around 10 kids stand on it. Then fold the sheet in half (the iceberg is melting) and do it again. Fold it in half again and still try to fit everyone on. Using teamwork, discuss how to keep everyone on the sheet without touching the ground as the space continues to shrink. You will have to work together. How long can you continue before someone falls off?

_____ 6. Patrols must work as a team both at troop meetings as well as at campouts and other functions. Each patrol should have a leader, but that person leads a team. Whether you are the leader or patrol member, show your knowledge of teamwork by helping your patrol to work cooperatively. Do what is asked of you quickly and efficiently and help your other patrol members complete their tasks as well. If you are the patrol leader, make sure you take the needs and desires of your team into account when making your decisions.

_____ 7. Play Wobblyballoons. Place a marble in a balloon and blow it up. Have your team stand in a circle and throw the balloon into the air. The object is not to let the balloon touch the ground until each member of the team has touched it. Each member can only touch the balloon once however. Discuss strategies that may make this easier. For example, try having the smaller girls go first and stand closer to the center of the circle while taller girls stand farther out.

_____ 8. Participate as a team to perform a fundraiser. Who will be responsible for what? Does someone need to bring tables? Do you need people to bake or make things? Who will be responsible for the money and making the deposit? Make sure your team works together so that everyone shares the work and one person is not overburdened.

_____ 9. Participate as a team to perform a service project. Make sure your team works together so that everyone shares the work and one person is not overburdened. Discuss how to divide up the work. If you are fixing up the landscaping where you meet, who will weed? Who will trim the bushes? Who will collect the trash and dispose of it? Will you take turns at each job or keep your assignment? How can you make it the most enjoyable for everyone?

_____ 10. Play "The Line Forms Here." Have your team line up according to whatever the leader shouts such as "Birthday", "Height", or "Shoe Size." How quickly can you organize yourselves? Time yourself and observe how everyone communicates to organize each line. Did everyone try to take charge or did you all work together?

_____ 11. Play "Knots." Have everyone stand in a circle, reach in and grab two different people's hands. Now have everyone work together to untangle themselves by going over or under linked hands so that you are standing in circle again. No one may let go of a hand until the knot is untied. Depending on whose hands grabbed whose and how large your group is, you may find yourselves untied into two or more separate circles (occasionally they will interconnect if your group is large). Some people may be facing forward, and some may be facing backward, but it is always possible to untie if your team works well together.

_____ 12. Play "Balloon Panic" Blow up two to three balloons per person. Each person has a balloon, with the rest in a nearby pile. Everyone begins bouncing their balloons in the air. Every five seconds, another balloon is added. See how long the group can keep the balloons bouncing before receiving six penalties. A penalty is announced loudly by the leader when a balloon hits the floor, or once on the floor, if it is not got back into play within five seconds. The leader keeps a cumulative score by shouting out "one", "two", etc. When the leader gets to "six", time is stopped. After some discussion, the group tries to better its record with another attempt.