

Team Building: Campfire Tales

Storytelling is at the heart of the community experience. It is also how information gets passed on informally. A storytelling session focused on work-related stories can get a large group to loosen up and share their experiences. It can also act as an informal training session with work experiences passing from one member to another.

Group Sizes: Split into groups 6-20

Duration: 45 minutes

Materials:

At least 1 stack of sticky notes per team member At least pen per team member Painters tape or dry erase markers

Preparing for the Activity:

- 1. Create a list of idea words and phrases like "first day," "conference," "top tip," or "side trip" to inspire each storytelling session. Then write each of these words or phrases on a different sticky note.
- 2. Use a white board or painters tape to create a large rectangle on a wall. Post all of the sticky notes created in step one on the left side of the whiteboard or rectangle.

Team Building Instructions:

- 1. Break your team up into departmental or small groups of less than twenty people per group.
- 2. Ask a participant to pick out one of the sticky notes and use it to share an experience (say, about their first day at the company).
- 3. Shift the chosen sticky note to the right side of the whiteboard once they're done sharing.
- 4. As the participant is relating their personal experience, ask others to jot down words that remind them of similar work-related stories. Add these words to sticky notes and add them to the rectangle.
- 5. Repeat this process until you have a "wall of words" with interconnected stories.