

Week 5: Leadership

Team Building Leadership (Tech Card) Exercise

What is it?

A team building exercise to reinforce the process of working as a team in an engineering environment in preparation for working in a team in an engineering workplace in the future.

Why do it?

This exercise helps engineering students practise effectively their communication skills and their ability to follow basic instructions to produce a product to a group design and use all available stores.

Time Needed

60 minutes

Number of Participants

This exercise should be carried out as a small team of 3 to 5 people or can be done as an individual.

Supplies Needed



- Instruction Pack/Planning paper
- Tech Card bases x 2
- Plastic spacers x 4
- Wooden or card axles x 2
- Wheels of various sizes x 8-12
- Selection of elastic bands
- Plastic or wooden cogs x 3
- Electric motor with gear x1
- Toggle switch x 1
- Battery pack x 1
- AA battery x 2
- Sellotape x 1
- Sticky pads x 3
- Scissors x 1
- Strip of card x 1
- Colouring pens x 1 pack

Process Steps

1. Follow the instructions in the correct order.
2. Each learner will participate in the team to produce a working/race-fit car to the groups design in the allocated time.
3. Any brainstorming or planning can be done on the paper provided in the instruction pack.
4. Each learner will complete any tasks given to them by the group leader.
5. Each group will compete in heats that lead to a final race.
6. Learners will return any unused materials to the box provided.
7. All teams will be debrief or given feedback and prizes will be awarded to the winning team.

The Scenario

You are a newly recruited team member in an engineering company. You now have to get to know your fellow team members and assess the strengths and weaknesses in the team. You must show you can work as a team, plan tasks in a timely manner and work to deadlines.

The Marking Worksheet

[illegible]

Achievement Level

Complete the task in the allocated time and produce a working model to race other teams.

Debrief

When all the stores have been returned to the front of the class the learners will be asked how they feel the activity went and the tutor will give them their results. Learners will discuss why it is important to work in teams in the engineering world and what happens when teams do not work well.

Learners will be asked what they feel went well and what they would do differently if they could do this task again.

