LEGOS

Equipment: A small bag of legos for each small group. Each group needs to have the exact number, size and shape of Legos. We use 15 blocks with 8 '*knots*' 4 – blue; 4 – white; 6 – red; 1 yellow. We also use 6 smaller blocks – the ones with 4 '*knots*' - 1 of each color; gray, blue, black, yellow, red, white.

Process:

1. Divide into groups of 5 – 7.

2. Create a model structure of legos using all of the 21 pieces. Place the model on a table in a separate room. No one should be able to see the model from the meeting room.

3. Give each table a bag of the legos.

4. Instruct the group on the rules and tell them to begin.

5. While the group is working, produce a chart on the flip chart that records when people begin planning and when they begin building. This chart has no direct purpose in the process but it causes the group to assume that this is competition and often changes the dynamics.

6. When a small group puts the model together and is satisfied, they will ask you to check it.

7. If the model is wrong they may rework their model, but they cannot go back and look at the original. If theirs is correct, ask them to discuss the process and the teamwork of their group.

8. Observe carefully what happens when the group gets the model wrong.

9. The activity may be debriefed in many ways. Talk about how the team worked, what impact did learning styles have, was there revolving leadership.

Rules shared with the group:

1. Spread your legos on the table, count them to ensure you have all of the pieces. After you have done this you may not touch them until you are ready to build.
2. You may go out and look at the model as often as you want – but only one of your group may go at a time. However, each group can have a representative looking.
3. You may not take pencil and paper when you go to look at the model, but, you may use anything when you come back to the table.
4. When you are ready to build your model, tell us. You then can touch the legos but you cannot return to look at the model.