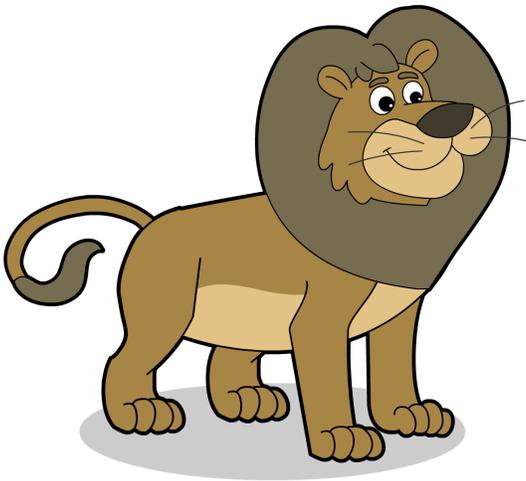


# COOPERATION LESSON: USE EACH OTHER'S STRENGTHS



## students will

- Listen to classmates' preferences and strengths
- Compromise with classmates
- Troubleshoot to find the best solution

## materials

- Team Task cards

When cooperating, everyone's strengths need to come together to make a strong team. Everyone has personal strengths and weaknesses. But on a team, individuals can make up for teammates' weaknesses to lead to success.

## Pre-Discussion

- Are there any strengths you have that may be stronger than others? For example, are you the best at math, a sport, music, etc?
- What are some of your weaknesses or things in which you aren't the strongest?
- Does everyone have the same strengths and weaknesses?

## Activity Directions

1. Split the students into even teams.
2. Each member of the team must complete the task on a Team Task card.
3. Students must work together to decide which student's strengths would be best suited to complete which Team Task. For example, the student who is best at and/or loves math would probably be best at the word problem task. A creative person who likes art should probably design the team logo. Someone who struggles with reading should probably not do the first Team Task.
4. Students should focus on what's best for the team, not what they personally WANT to do most. If someone is good at math *and* art and would prefer to do art, but

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another team member is *only* good at art, they need to compromise.

5. Optional: To make the activity more challenging, tell students that all 8 tasks need to be completed. Some team members may need to do multiple tasks while others may only do one, depending on their strengths and ability to work quickly.

## Post-Discussion

Go over the following questions with the group:

- What are the benefits of working on a team?
- Were there any instances in which you had to compromise with a teammate?
- Was your team successful? Why or why not?

As you discuss these questions, help guide students to the idea that teams are the most successful when you work together to use each others' strengths and make up for each others' weaknesses.

## Educator Notes

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## Team Task #1

How many words can you make using the letters from all group members' names?

## Team Task #2

Think of a team name, slogan, and design a team logo.

## Team Task #3

Find something that everyone in your group has in common.

## Team Task #4

Find something that is different about everyone on your team. No two people can share the same response/answer.

## Team Task #5

Compose a math word problem using everyone in your group in the story.

## Team Task #6

Invent a secret alphabet code. Write everyone's name with the code.

## Team Task #7

Assign an animal to each person on the team based on their personality traits. Explain why you picked that animal for each person.

## Team Task #8

Invent superhero names for everyone in the group and assign them powers based on their personality traits.