

6 interactive, virtual activities requiring nothing more than each participant having an email account & an internet connection

COMMONALITIES

How much do you have in common with your colleagues?

We recommend teams of 10 for this, but certainly, your overall group size may alter this. Feel free to adapt, as needed.

One person on the team starts by writing 5 "things" about him/ herself, along with his/her name, underneath, and distributes, via email, to another person on your team. For example . . .

Has 2 Siblings John Smith

Favorite Food is Italian

John Smith

Has been to a Super Bowl, in person

John Smith

Has run a marathon

John Smith

Favorite season is summer

John Smith

The second person adds his/her name to any applicable categories/commonalities, and then adds a new one to the



bottom of the list, and emails it to yet another team member. See the example on the next page . . .

Has 2 Siblings

John Smith

Favorite Food is Italian

John Smith Susie Jones

Has been to a Super Bowl, in person John Smith

<u>Has run a marathon</u>

John Smith

Favorite season is summer

John Smith Susie Jones

Is an only child

Susie Jones

The cycle continues until the email has gone through each participant on the team, answering the first round, and adding a new "category/commonality."

At that point, let the email pass through to all team members, again, a second time, but don't add any new items. Just add your name, if it's applicable, to any "categories/commonalities."

The last person then emails the composite list of "final answers," to all on the team.



COVID-19 DISCOVERIES

We recommend teams of 10 for this, but certainly, your overall group size may alter this. Feel free to adapt, as needed.

One person on the team starts by answering the five questions, below, and crediting the answer to him/herself, and then distributes it, via email, to another person on your team.

- What is your favorite adult beverage while on lockdown? Old Fashioned (John Smith) . . . *this is a "sample answer"*
- Have you discovered any odd or unexpected behaviors by your pets now that you are home all day, every day?
- Have you discovered any odd or unexpected behaviors by your roommate or significant other now that you are home all day, every day?
- Have you discovered any odd or unexpected behaviors by/ about yourself, now that you are home all day, every day?
- What is the funniest, or most unexpected, thing that has happened to you, since this pandemic began?

The second person answers the questions, and adds a new question to the bottom of the list, and emails it to yet another team member.

The cycle continues until the email has gone through each participant on the team, answering the first round, and adding a new "COVID-19 Question."

At that point, let the email pass through to all team members, again, a second time, but don't add any new questions. Just answer any questions you haven't, yet.

The last person then emails the composite list of "final answers," to all on the team.



<u>"YES AND" STORY ...</u>

"Yes, and" is a major principle of improvisation. It is the idea that when someone states something, it is accepted, rather than denied, and built upon, rather than "squashed."

For example:

- Mark: Thanks for printing the tickets for tomorrow's baseball game.
- Sam: It was my pleasure. I knew your printer was out of ink.

Your challenge is to, as a team (we recommend no more than 10 participants per team), write a short story using the tenet of "yes and."

- The "boss" of your team starts the story, with the first sentence and emails it to team member #2.
- That individual adds to the story with the next sentence, and emails it to team member #3.
- This continues on, so that all 10 team members are part of the story writing.

Additional "rules"...

- Each person has 5 minutes from the time s/he receives the email from the previous team member to add the next line to the story and email it to the next person. Watch for times stamps on the emails!
- Make sure the story has an arc... a beginning, middle, and end.
- Each person must contribute 5 sentences, in total.
- When the story is finished ...
 - share it with other departments and teams
 - post it on your company's intranet
 - post it on your favorite social media platforms, and tag your company & PremierTeamBuilding
- Be creative and HAVE FUN!



THEY'RE PLAYIN' OUR SONG

As a team (we recommend no more than 10 participants per team), come up with a famous song that you all know and parody it with new lyrics.

- Select a "team captain."
- Each team member emails the captain a list of 5 or 6 famous songs that s/he thinks would be fun to parody, with new lyrics.
- The captain emails the composite list to all team members, who individually, by email reply, vote on which song to use.
- The captain emails everyone in the group the original lyrics . . . we suggest using red text.
- Additionally, the captain starts by writing a new first line to the song (change the text to black so that it's "done") and emails it to team member #2 (whomever the captain randomly chooses). Lyrics should reflect your team members, company, current events, etc.
- Team member #2 individually rewrites the next line, and emails it to team member #3 (whomever s/he randomly chooses).
- This continues on, from person to person, so that all 10 team members are part of the new lyric writing, until the entire new song is written.

Additional "rules" . . .

- Each person has 5 minutes from the time s/he receives the email from the previous team member to add the next line to the song and email it to the next person. Watch for email times stamps!
- When the song is finished . . .
 - share it with other departments and teams
 - post it on your company's intranet
 - post it on your favorite social media platforms, and tag your company & PremierTeamBuilding
 - Be creative and HAVE FUN!



5 TRUTHS & A LIE

We recommend teams of 10 for this, but certainly, your overall group size may alter this. Feel free to adapt, as needed.

Each person on the team states 5 truths about him/herself, along with 1 lie, mixed in. For example . . .

I'm an only child. I've never eaten sushi. I've never left the U.S.A. I don't know how to swim. I own 3 cats. I have double-jointed elbows.

S/he emails it to each member of the team, who individually replies to the sender, with which statement s/he believes to be a lie. Do not "reply all."

Each initiator should reply to each individual, letting him/her know if he/she is correct or incorrect.

Each individual should keep track of how many teammates s/he correctly "calls out" on lying.

The individual with the most correct answers might...

- have lunch bought for him/her, by the other team members, when "at office" work commences.
- have his/her favorite candy bought for him/her, by the other team members, when "at office" work commences.
- receive a homemade greeting card (via mail) from each of the other members on the team.

Or better yet, come up with your own fun "prizes."



COUNT 'EM UP

We recommend teams of 10 for this, but certainly, your overall group size may alter this. Feel free to adapt, as needed.

What: a challenge where teams work together, in an attempt to count from 1 to 50, collectively and collaboratively, in the shortest amount of time, possible

How it works:

- One person on the team sends a group email to the entire team with the only content being "1." We recommend you use the following for a subject: "Count 'Em Up Round 1."
- A second, random person "replies to all" with "2" as the email content.
- A third, random person "replies to all" with "3" as the email content.
- This continues until you, as a team, reach 50.

Rules:

- Every person must actively participate.
- No player may send two consecutive numbers.
- No other communication allowed (email, text, calls, etc.).
- No pre-planning is allowed.
- Players may not progress in an organized manner.
- If two players send the same number, you all start again, at "1" (change your subject to "Count 'Em Up Round 2").

This might take hours, days, or weeks, depending upon how involved you are . . . have fun!