

Gumdrop Tower

Group Size: 4-8

Time: 25-30 minutes

Materials Cost: \$8.00

The purpose of the exercise is to teach cooperation and teamwork. The exercise works best on tables where you can walk around and lots of room to move. Give each group a package of gumdrops and spaghetti noodles. They have 15 minutes to build a self-standing tower. Do not give guidance on how to build towers. Some teams may choose to build tall towers, some wide towers; it really doesn't matter. The point is for them to work together and communicate.

Discussion Questions (10 -15 minutes)

1. Why did you build the type of tower you did?
2. How did the group work together? Did feel like you listen to each other? Why or why not? Did someone make sure other people were being asked their ideas? Why or why not? Why would that be good form communication?
3. What frustrated you about this exercise? What if I had told you this exercise was going to be for a grade, would you be happy with how it turned out?
4. If you did this exercise again what would you do different?
5. What is one thing you learned about one other person in the group?
(let each person answer this one)