

## Activity Sheet – Boggle it!

This set of activities are ideal for trainers, educators and facilitators to use in any training session, workshop or meeting in order to build on learning concepts in a kinaesthetic manner for their delegates or learners.



These activities can be used to help explore many areas of development and are dependant on you as the trainer, facilitator or educator to debrief the activity effectively to bring out or drill down on the learning points.

Possible questions to use to prompt post-exercise discussion or thinking:

- What made the task easy? Why is this relevant?
- What made the task difficult? Why is this relevant?
- What different approach can we use?
- Which people were involved in the activity or task? Why?
- What does this activity show us?
- What did you learn about yourself or others?
- How is this activity relevant to our working day?
- When do we have to do a similar task? At work?
- What happens if we don't plan before hand?
- Would more planning time have helped? How?
- If you were to approach the same task again – how would you do it differently?
- What assumptions did you make – whether true or false?
- What would you do differently at work as a result of this activity?

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Contents:

- ✓ 8 mini boggles
- ✓ instruction sheets



## Activities:



### 1. Icebreaker (new team)

Hand out the mini boggles so that you have at least one between two delegates. Ask the pairs to shake the boggle and pick a 3 or 4 letter word with which they can introduce themselves to their colleagues. The words they pick can be a hobby, an interest or just something that they can create a meaning for.

### 2. Icebreaker (existing team)

This icebreaker is ideal if the team know each other already. Hand out the mini boggles so that you have at least one between two delegates. Ask them to shake the boggle and then challenge them to find the longest words they can that has something to do with the content of the workshop. Mark the words on the flipchart and then use these to build your agenda/objectives for the session.

### 3. Learning summary:

At the end of your session this activity is a fun way to review your learning. Split the whole group into teams and give one mini boggle per team. Ask one of the teams to shake the boggle and then the letter that is in the top right hand corner is the letter that the other teams must now come up with a word that starts with the letter that has something to do with the content of the workshop. The team can then describe what this word means. For example if it is Coaching Skills that you are reviewing and the letter is G then the teams could include GROW, greet (your coachee to make them relaxed), generate (interest), grasp (new ideas) etc. All the teams can take a turn for the review.

### 4. Present the boggle:

This activity is ideal on presentation or training skills workshops where a session is being conducted on eye contact, voice tone, pitch and speed. Set the delegates the task of writing a 1-minute presentation of the mini boggle. They then have 1-minute to present the product to the rest of the group using their mini boggle and their prepared script. The whole group can then give feedback on relevant skills being practised in eye contact, voice tone, pitch and speed of delivery.

### 5. Sell that:

Ideal activity for any sales skills workshop where we are looking at features and benefits plus a short sales pitch for the sales process. Set the delegates the task of developing a 2-minute presentation of the mini boggle to include all the features and benefits. They then have 2-minute to present the product to the rest of the group using their mini boggle and their prepared script. The whole group can then give feedback on relevant skills being practised.

### 6. Sell that extra:

As an extension of the activity 5 for any sales or marketing type training. Now that the delegates have developed their presentation of the features and benefits of the mini boggle; discuss these as a whole group. Decide on a list of features and benefits, which could be used in the marketing, advertising and sales process for the puzzle. Split the group into smaller teams - ask one team to devise an advert for the newspaper, ask another team to write a television or radio advert, finally ask a team to develop a sales strategy for the puzzle - this can be completed with targets, costs and budgets etc if appropriate.

Any of the small group activities listed above can be conducted as one group activity or as described depending on the outline or outcome of your workshop.

Debrief as appropriate.

## **7. Just for fun!**

An energiser just for fun and to switch the brain activity for your delegates. Challenge your teams to shake the mini boggle and record as many words as they can find. Extra points can be awarded for the longer words. This activity can be run a few times in your training day or workshops as "quick fire" rounds and a running score can be kept and then prizes awarded at the end of the workshop.

If you wish to make this activity have validity for the workshop learning, task the teams with only finding words related to the content, or have a mix of both - one round content related then next round just for fun!

## **8. Creative thinking!**

Split your whole group into 2s or 3s and give a mini boggle to each team. Now ask them to brainstorm a number of activities they could do with it. Ask them to mindmap or flipchart their ideas. Award points for the most creative.

Debrief on the lines of:

- Where did the best ideas come from?
- How did you create so many ideas?
- Was it better to have more brains than one on the activity?
- How did it help if another group member sowed an idea?
- How did you build on the ideas?

## **9. Number link?**

Great activity for literacy or spelling type sessions.

Draw the 16 square grid on the flipchart which replicates the mini boggle layout and then number the squares 1 - 16.

Each team will have a mini boggle that they have shaken and the letters are randomly in their positions. Now state a number and each group tells you what letter is in that square - write these up on the flipchart - you should have 8 letters if you use all the boggles. Ask the group to come up with as many words from these letters as possible. You may need to assist and give them a wild square as any letter they like if the letters look difficult.

## **10. Feel that number?**

Great activity for any workshop where you wish to surface any feelings or thoughts.

Draw the 16 square grid on the flipchart which replicates the mini boggle layout and then number the squares 1 - 16. Give each delegate a boggle up to 8 people - if you have more delegates give them one between 2.

Now state 2 numbers and the individuals take the corresponding letters from their boggle to describe how they are feeling about the content of the workshop etc. For example on an appraisal skills workshop - ask the delegates about their experience of being appraised - so if they have letters C and D they can say - my experience was quite Calm but a bit Disappointing. Debrief to draw out good and poor appraisal skills which can be charted on the flipchart to kick start the session.