

Works Well With Others

The “Do”s and “Don’t”s of Group Work

DO...

- **Be friendly:** talking to a stranger has actually been shown to make people happier
- **Be patient:** everyone works at their own pace and we need to respect that
- **Be constructive:** The goal is to be efficient, effective, happy. You will not be perfect at this! Find constructive ways to improve the process and your team
- **Be understanding:** everyone has a complicated life and sometimes things happen.
- **Be responsible:** everyone hates the slacker, the one who forgets their work, the one who talks too much, the one who doesn't care, the one who snap chats instead of doing their work, the one who watches car videos when they are supposed to be doing research, the one who isn't prepared. Do what you need to do!
- **Be inclusive:** Get to know new people, step outside your comfort zone. Share the work!

Don't...

- **Lose your temper:** your team will frustrate you and annoy you. If you need a timeout (I take “mommy time outs” all the time at home), take a break.
- **Say things you are going to regret:** if you are frustrated, it is not appropriate to say “you are such a dumba-, you make me want to vomit, I hate you, you f-ing n-word, I wish you weren't on our team, why did your mother even have you.” These things escalate the situation.
- **Be rude:** if you are having a bad day, don't take it out on your team.
- **Complain without having a solution:** this goes back to being constructive. Problem solve a way to fix the problem rather than just whining about it.
- **Jump to conclusions:** figure out what is going on and communicate.
- **Exclude someone in your group:** Most of you will be working with a friend. Don't just talk to your friend and ignore others in the group. Make new friends!
- **Do all the work yourself:** this whole project isn't your job... share the work, help others figure out how to do the work.

Working together practice... (1)

- Person #1 is going to draw the head of a creature/monster/person/animal. Be sure to include a neck stem. Fold the head part back so all that is showing is the neck stem. DON'T SHOW ANYONE!!!
- Person #2 is going to draw the body of the creature/monster/person/animal. Be sure to include leg(s) stem(s). Fold the body back so that all that is showing are the leg stems. DON'T SHOW ANYONE!!!
- Person #3 is going to draw the legs of the creature/monster/person/animal.
- When I say “go” you can unfold your monster and look at it.

Working together practice... (2)

- You need to find two things that everyone in the group has in common.
- You need to find one things that are unique to each person (and not shared in common with anyone).

Working together practice... (3)

- As a group, make a list of 10 items that you would like to have if you were stranded on a desert island.
- Unfortunately, you can only have 3 of these objects... as a group you need to agree on what these would be and be able to justify them.

SCRUM!

- Scrum is a **rugby** term: “an ordered formation of players, used to restart play, in which the forwards of a team form up with arms interlocked and heads down, and push forward against a similar group from the opposing side. The ball is thrown into the scrum and the players try to gain possession of it by kicking it backward toward their own side.”
- It is used in the business world (especially in tech start-ups) to reset the group so they can push forward through obstacles.
- We will have Monday scrum meetings every week!

Scrum roles

- You will have a SCRUM MASTER who will be recording all of your scrum meetings. This person should be someone who has incredible handwriting and is an amazing listener. I will not require them to do oral presentations because they will be doing this work every Monday.
- You will have a TEAM LEAD who will be directing all of your scrum meetings. They are in charge of keeping the team on track, reporting any issues to me, ensuring the final project gets done. I will not require them to do oral presentations because they will be the lead. This person needs to be VERY RESPONSIBLE and a good communicator.

Scrum journal

- Every week you will write in your scrum journal.
- This is a HUGE part of your grade
- The same person will do the writing, but everyone must participate
- You will answer these same questions every week:
 - Date: _____
 - Absent from meeting and Present at meeting:
 - What did each of us accomplish last week?
 - What is the focus of work this week?
 - What do each of us think we can accomplish this week?
 - What are some possible solutions to those problems?
 - Things we need from Mrs. Jorden
- It is important that you are honest, speak loudly, stay focused