

The Ten Day Vacation

Team Building Activity Guide

Overview

"The Ten Day Vacation" is an interactive team building exercise that encourages participants to collaborate, negotiate, and learn about each other's interests and communication styles through vacation planning.

Duration

- Total Activity Time: 45 minutes
 - Planning Phase: 25 minutes
 - Presentation Phase: 20 minutes

Group Size

- Teams of 4 to 5 participants
- Suitable for groups of 8-35 people total

Setup

1. Divide the larger group into teams of four to five people
2. Provide each team with paper and pens for planning (optional)
3. Ensure teams have enough space to discuss without disturbing other groups

Vacation Parameters

- Plan a 10-day vacation for the entire team of four to five members
- Must be within earth's orbit (no space travel, though flying is fine)
- Budget is not a constraint. You have more than enough to do what you all would like.
- Team members must spend the majority of each day together.
- Individual hotel rooms/accommodations are permitted



Planning Requirements

Teams must determine:

1. Destination(s)
 - Single location vs. multiple stops
 - New or familiar locations for team members
2. Transportation
 - How to reach the destination
 - Local transportation during the vacation
3. Activities
 - Daily itinerary
 - Group activities
 - Learning opportunities
 - Activity intensity level
4. Accommodation
 - Type of lodging
 - Location preferences
5. Meals

Discussion Points

Teams should consider:

- Individual "must-haves" for travel experiences
- Personal travel histories and preferences
- Desired balance between relaxation and activity
- Learning goals and cultural interests
- Comfort levels with different types of activities
- Individual and group priorities

Presentation Phase

- Each team selects one spokesperson
- Spokesperson presents the vacation plan to the larger group
- Presentation should include:
 - Destination overview
 - Key activities
 - Reasoning behind choices
 - How the team reached their decisions



Learning Objectives

This exercise reveals:

- Communication styles
- Negotiation skills
- Compromise abilities
- Creative thinking
- Decision-making processes
- Collaboration capabilities
- Individual preferences and personalities

Facilitator Notes

- Monitor time and give 5-minute warning before planning phase ends
- Encourage full participation from all team members
- Remind teams to focus on creating a shared experience
- Use presentation phase to highlight different approaches to teamwork and decision-making

