Unit 104: Employability in the construction and built environment sector

# Worksheet 7: Teamwork and communication (learner)

The tasks below will help you practise your teamworking and communication skills, which are essential in the construction industry. Your tutor will provide the resources and give you instructions.

**Task 1: Drawing room**

**Instructions:**

1. Sit with a colleague as a pair with blank paper and pencils.
2. Describe to your colleague what your front room/main living room looks like at home.
3. Listen to your colleague describe to you their front room.
4. Move to another partner. Now describe to your new partner what your original partner’s room looked like and the new partner must attempt to sketch this room on the piece of paper. You will do the same for them as they describe a room.
5. Once complete hand in to your tutor.

When you have finished, decide: What went well? What did not go so well?

**Task 2: Marshmallow spaghetti tower**

Collaboration is important for problem solving: Collectively, we can be more insightful and more effective than we can be individually. We can solve problems better as a team than we can alone, which means developing your team’s collaboration skills will lead to better problem-solving outcomes.

**What you’ll need (per team):**

* 20 strands of uncooked spaghetti
* 1 roll of masking tape
* 1 metre of string
* 1 marshmallow

**Instructions:**

1. The goal of this exercise is to see which team can use the materials provided to build the tallest tower within an allotted time period. The tower must be able to stand on its own.
2. To make this exercise more challenging, try adding a marshmallow to the top of the tower. This team problem-solving exercise helps teams think on their toes while building camaraderie and leadership.

When you have finished, decide: What went well? What did not go so well?

**Task 3: Stranded**

More employees work remotely than ever before. Good communication skills are vital to solving problems across increasingly virtual teams. Working on communication skills while your team is together will help them better solve problems when they’re apart.

Here's the scenario: Your team has been stranded in the office/ workshop/ classroom. The doors are locked and knocking down the doors or breaking the windows is not an option. Give your team 30 minutes to decide on 10 items in the office/ workshop/ classroom they need for survival and rank them in order of importance. The goal of the game is to have everyone agree on the 10 items and their ranking in 30 minutes.

When you have finished, decide: What went well? What did not go so well?