



ACTIVITY: 'ENTERPRISE'

TIME: 15+ minutes
SIZE: Groups of three to five
SPACE: Room for small groups to work around a desk
RESOURCES: Paper, pens

The aim is to draw attention to the different but complementary roles that individuals play in groups.

The result should be an appreciation that one can maintain and foster individual strengths while being a valued member of a group.

1. Commence a short discussion about how successful groups are often made up of diverse people who share similar values but have different skill sets and strengths. Football teams need forwards, wingers and defensive players; armies need brave privates and experienced generals; the famous star 'Ship Enterprise' from *Star Trek* had a crew with many diverse or unique talents.
2. Break the class into groups of three to five.
3. Explain that each group has three goals:
 - to list the things their members have in common
 - to list the things that make them different from each other
 - to figure out a business – or enterprise – the group could start up that draws on their team's unique talent combination.
4. Allow about five minutes for each of the first two goals, and longer for the third.
5. Wind up the activity and have each group select a spokesperson who will 'pitch' the group's enterprise to the class as if selling it to a bank manager for a start-up loan.
6. After every group has pitched, commence class discussion.



DISCUSSION SUGGESTIONS

- What were you thinking at the start of the activity? Why did you think like that, and what did you feel?
- How easy was it to determine a) the things your group members have in common, and b) the things that mark you as distinct from your group?
- Did thinking helpfully open any creative doors? Why might that be?
- Did your skill set take on a new value when placed alongside the skill sets of your group mates? In what way?
- Did identifying strengths in yourself and others provide a different way of looking at things? How?
- For those who pitched to the class, how did you feel about talking to the class? Did having your group's support help? How?