

# This is Better Than That

Type of activity: Team building

Participants: One or multiple small groups

Timing: 15 - 20 minutes

Materials: Various office objects

Additional Cost: Free

Key themes: Creative thinking and problem-solving



## Instructions:

Prior to the activity:

- Determine the number of groups that will participate during the activity. Groups should include no more than five participants
- Collect four or more office objects for each anticipated group: tape, scissors, pen, coffee mug, stapler, etc.

To begin the activity:

- Organize the participants into groups of five participants or less
- Distribute the office objects to each group
- Inform the groups they will have to rescue themselves from a given scenario using the various office objects provided. For example, “You are stranded on a deserted island” or “You are saving Manhattanville from Big Foot”. Think of creative or possibly wacky scenarios
- Provide each group with five-minutes to describe how they will use the objects to save themselves and rank the usefulness of each object with the number one ranking being the most important to least important
- Mid-way into the activity, notify each group they will receive one bonus object of their choosing. Bonus objects are not required to be present and may include: calculator, phone, food, lighter, magnifying glass, etc.
- Each group will share their ranking order and reasoning for each object provided

**Debrief:** This activity allows team members to build on their creative problem-solving skills by demonstrating ways to use ordinary objects to solve complex scenarios. In addition, the activity will spark new ways for the team to communicate and negotiate team member ideas.



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