

SKILLS BINGO



Introduction:

Most people do not spend a lot of time thinking about what skills they have. It is very important to know what we are good at, what we want to learn, and what we need help with from other people. The purpose of this activity is to show how interdependence can work when you build a team of people with all different kinds of skills. It also demonstrates that having every skill is not important when you can find people to work with who have skills that you don't have.

Needed Materials:

- Pens or pencils
- Handout # 15: Skills Bingo Card
- Facilitator Resource # 9: Skills List

Time Allotted: 40-50 minutes

- Fill out Bingo cards- 20-25 minutes
- Find Bingo groups- 10-15 minutes
- Group Discussion- 10 minutes

Description of Activity:

Pass out **Handout # 15: Skills Bingo Card**. Explain to the group something like this:

For this next activity we are going to play a game called Skills Bingo. Before we start the BINGO game, we have to set up our boards. I am going to read descriptions of different skills aloud. The pictures on your BINGO board show the different skills. I will go from left to write on the board. If you have the skill that I say, check the box in the square that has the picture of that skill.

Read the list of skills from **Facilitator Resource # 9: Skills List** out loud. Read each skill one at a time so people have enough time to

decide if it is one of their skills. If it is a skill they have, they will check the box on their bingo card. After you finish reading the skills on the top row of the Bingo Card (#1-5), ask participants who have more than one box checked on that row to circle the box with their best skill. Repeat for the second row (#6-10). For the third row, ask the group to skip over the FREE SPACE box and wait to circle a box on that row. For row 4 (#15-19), once again ask people to circle their best skill if they have checked more than one box. Do the same for row 5 (#20-24).

After you have read all of the skills, allow people to think of a skill that may have not been mentioned. If they have a skill that was unmentioned, ask them to write or draw that skill in the FREE SPACE box. Now they will circle their best skill on Row 3 if they have checked more than one box.

Now everyone's bingo card is set up and you are ready to play Skills Bingo!

Everyone will move around the room to try to form a group of people whose skills, when combined together, make a BINGO. A BINGO is a line of 5 boxes on the bingo board that goes all the way across the board either horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. A winning BINGO group is a group of five people who, when combining their skills, make a BINGO. If people checked more than one box in a row, they can only use the skill that they circled to form their BINGO group.

The first group that forms a BINGO wins!

If a group says that they have formed a bingo group, check to make sure you have a winning BINGO. There is a chance that it's a not a real BINGO. If this is the case, ask the room to keep playing. If it is a real BINGO and that group has won, ask the 5 people to come to the front of the room. Everyone else should take their seats. Ask each person in the bingo group to say what their skill was that formed the BINGO.

Now ask the whole group if they can think of something that this group of people could do together with their 5 different skills. (Some examples might be: organize a carwash, plan a party, etc.)

Something where all five people's skills would be used. This may take some creativity.

Close the activity by asking everyone if they know why you did the activity and what it is supposed to show.

Facilitation Notes:

As the facilitator, you may need to move around the room when people are trying to form bingo groups, to make sure that everyone is able to be engaged in the activity. It may take some creativity to get people who have a hard time moving around the room or people who are quiet to get involved.

Make sure the group understands how this activity relates to the concept of interdependence. One point to make sure you cover is how this activity shows that you do not need to be good at every skill if you have other people in your life with different talents. Interdependence is about relying on other people for their skills and having other people rely on you for your skills. This will be important to remember in the next activity when people start thinking about building their support systems.

Facilitator Resource # 9

Skills Bingo List

1. I am a good listener. I can listen to someone who needs someone to talk to.
2. I am good with kids. I can babysit or take care of someone's children.
3. I am good at fixing machines. I can help someone fix something that is broken.
4. I am good with animals. I can take care of someone's pet.
5. I am good at art, crafts, or poetry. I can create something beautiful for someone.
6. I am a great cook. I can make a meal or bake something for someone.
7. I am good at budgeting. I can help someone learn how to manage their money.
8. I am fun to be around. I'm great at lifting people's spirits. I am the life of the party.
9. I'm good at writing. I can help someone with a project that involves writing.
10. I am good at yard work or landscaping. I can help someone mow their yard, plant flowers, rake, or trim bushes and trees.
11. I am good at leading groups. I can help bring people together and help them work towards the same cause.
12. I'm good at being an advocate for other people. I can help someone speak up for themselves at a meeting or stand up for their rights.

FREE SPACE

13. I'm good at solving problems. I can help people figure out solutions to problems they may be facing.
14. I am good at housework like cleaning, vacuuming, laundry, etc. I can help someone do those things or teach them how.

15. I can drive and I have a car. I can help give someone a ride now and then.

16. I am good at using public transportation. I can show someone else how to use public transportation or show them how to get somewhere.

17. I am good at singing or playing music. I can entertain people by playing an instrument, playing/singing in a group or band or being a DJ at an event.

18. I'm good at building things. I can help someone put something together or build something for someone.

19. I'm good at planning and hosting events. I can help plan a party or organize a gathering.

20. I'm good at making money and fundraising. I can help someone make a little money or help a group organize a fundraiser.

21. I'm good at lifting and carrying things. I can help someone move or help move and carry things for an event.

22. I'm good at running errands. I can help someone go grocery shopping or pick something up from the store for them.

23. I'm good at public speaking. I am comfortable speaking to a large group of people. I could make a speech at an event.

24. I'm good at sports. I can help someone learn a sport or join someone's team.