

## TEAM LEADERSHIP PROBLEM

# 17. SUITS ME

**Theme:** Conflict Resolution

**Estimated Time:** 25-30 minutes

**Resources Required:** Deck of cards

### **Activity Description and Step-by-Step Instructions:**

Sometimes, a group may get entrenched in a set pattern of problem solving and not think of new ways to handle a matter. This activity helps the group to realize their focus may need to be expanded to be successful.

Have the group break into teams of four or five. Thoroughly shuffle a deck of cards and equally distribute the cards to each team. {Keep any left-over cards if you can't do an equal distribution.}

The team that creates the largest suit of cards (hearts, spades, clubs or diamonds) wins. Jokers are wild.

Start the activity. Stop when everyone has completed their cards. Count who has the largest suit but declare that they did not create the largest suit.

Allow teams five minutes to strategize on how best to create the largest suit. After the five-minute preparation time, instruct the teams that only the two people holding the jokers are allowed to talk to the other teams.

Start the activity. {Watch how they resolve the conflict of dealing with only the jokers.} Stop after five minutes and count who has the largest suit but declare that they still did not create the largest suit.

Allow teams five minutes to strategize on how best to create the largest suit. After the five-minute preparation time, instruct the teams that only the two people holding the jokers are allowed to talk to the other teams.

Start the activity. {Watch how they resolve the conflict of dealing with the other teams.} Stop after five minutes and count who has the largest suit. Declare a winner.

### **Discussion Questions:**

What were some methods used that worked or did not work?

What were some ways to make the team work more efficiently?

What were some concepts learned from this exercise?

How can these concepts be applied outside this activity?