

[WHEN PEOPLE PLAY]

Team Speed Stack



Activity Objective: Stack the cups in sequential order as fast as possible in a vertical stack.

Needs: A stack of cups labeled 1-26 or A-Z on the back of each cup. One stack for each team created. A flat elevated surface such as a table. One stopwatch for each team. If you allow smartphones, then the time keeper can use their phone as the stopwatch.

Numbers: 4 - 8 people per team.

Time: (best guess - range within 15 minutes)

Procedure:

1. There are 26 cups in a stack. It is either labeled 1-26 or A-Z.
2. Give each team a complete stack.
3. Have each team unstack the cups and turn the cups open faced up. Making the numbers to be hidden facing down on the table.
4. Ask all teams to shuffle their cups to be out of order. Tell the teams that they will be switching to a new table so mix them thoroughly. Switch tables but ask them not to touch the cups.
5. Have each team to assign a time keeper. They either need to have a smart phone or a stop watch that you provide.

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6. When you as the facilitator say “GO,” time starts, and each team needs to stack the cups in sequential order as fast as possible. When done, stop your time and record it.
7. Do multiple rounds for improvement as you go.

Safety: Don't Drink and stack!



Facilitation: This activity is set up to be competitive, using the following variations will help with collaborative play. Be sure to have the cups have numbers or letters written on the bottom of the cups before you present them.

Variations: Best for collaborative play.

1. To compare resources, if a team uses the alphabet cups then have them try the numeric cups to compare and share.
2. For collaborative play, have two small teams. Each team at a separate table. Each team will be asked to combine their stacks into one. One team has cups labeled A-Z and the second team has cups labeled 1-26. Together they have to match their average time trails from above to complete a combined stack. The combined stack needs to be stacked in sequence A they 1, B then 2, C then 3 and so on. The result should be a single stack of mixed cups.

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Observations/Questions:

1. What was the communication like during the planning process? Did your process of stacking the cups go along like you planned? Why or why not? What changes did you make?
2. Did you have increased improvement with each round? Why or why not? If you can identify one thing that lead to your success, what would it be? Can this one thing be transferred to life/work?
3. What were your roles and or responsibility during the process of this activity? Was it flipping, only flipping assigned numbers, stacking or were all roles shared with the whole team? Did your role change with each round? Why or why not? Does the action of one person's role effect the whole group? Did this happen during any of the rounds? How?

Video Link:

Click below for the link to this activity. Please check out our other activities on the When People Play channel.

<https://youtu.be/Q9YL0 XzMlo>