

## **Tower Building Task**

### **How to Lead Your Group**

#### **Leading by Autocratic Direction**

In leading your group, you are encouraged to provide explicit direction on what you believe the group should do to excel. Please act in the following ways:

- During the initial design phase, provide the group with your own plan of action for what you think the tower should look like and how to execute it.
- To encourage efficiency, ask the group to adopt this plan (rather than consider other alternatives) and work their hardest to execute it.
- If your group members make alternative suggestions, emphasize that with such a short time frame that you believe the best strategy is to stick with your plan.

#### **Leading by Technical Mastery**

In leading your group, draw upon whatever relevant expertise you might have to complete this task and model your technical expertise to others. Please act in the following ways:

- During the initial design phase, demonstrate what you believe based on your experience would be the strongest folding technique.
- Give technical advice to your group members when they are making the tower – make sure they are folding things correctly or assembling things in the right position.
- Ask your group members if they noticed certain technical tips when folding the paper or assembling the tower and share these with the entire group.

#### **Leading by Collaborative Optimization**

In leading your group, determine how best to capitalize on the skillsets of the people in your group. Please act in the following ways:

- During the initial design phase, ask if anyone has relevant experience and determine people's interests in various roles (e.g., designer, folder, assembler, troubleshooter).
- Pay attention to the teamwork of your group members to make sure everyone is actively involved and communicating effectively.  
Acknowledge and compliment those who are doing well in their role; reassign people who are struggling or inactive to a new role.

#### **Leading by Innovation**

In leading your group, identify unusual, new, and creative ways to accomplish the task. Please act in the following ways:

- During the initial design phase, tell your group that you would like to build a tower that is unlike any other groups' design.
- Play the devil's advocate. If your group members suggest a conventional idea, make suggestions that are different or ask for differing suggestions.
- Monitor what other groups seem to be doing unsuccessfully and be sure that your group is adopting a different approach.

### **How to Lead Your Group:**

In leading your group, you are encouraged to provide explicit direction on what you believe the group should do to excel. Please act in the following ways:

- During the initial design phase, provide the group with your own plan of action for what you think the tower should look like and how to execute it.
- To encourage efficiency, ask the group to adopt this plan (rather than consider other alternatives) and work their hardest to execute it.
- If your group members make alternative suggestions, emphasize that with such a short time frame that you believe the best strategy is to stick with your plan.

### **How to Lead Your Group:**

In leading your group, draw upon whatever relevant expertise you might have to complete this task and model your technical expertise to others. Please act in the following ways:

- During the initial design phase, demonstrate what you believe based on your experience would be the strongest folding technique.
- Give technical advice to your group members when they are making the tower – make sure they are folding things correctly or assembling things in the right position.
- Ask your group members if they noticed certain technical tips when folding the paper or assembling the tower and share these with the entire group.

### **How to Lead Your Group:**

In leading your group, determine how best to capitalize on the skillsets of the people in your group. Please act in the following ways:

- During the initial design phase, ask if anyone has relevant experience and determine people's interests in various roles (e.g., designer, folder, assembler, troubleshooter).
- Pay attention to the teamwork of your group members to make sure everyone is actively involved and communicating effectively.  
Acknowledge and compliment those who are doing well in their role; reassign people who are struggling or inactive to a new role.

### **How to Lead Your Group:**

In leading your group, identify unusual, new, and creative ways to accomplish the task. Please act in the following ways:

- During the initial design phase, tell your group that you would like to build a tower that is unlike any other groups' design.
- Play the devil's advocate. If your group members suggest a conventional idea, make suggestions that are different or ask for differing suggestions.
- Monitor what other groups seem to be doing unsuccessfully and be sure that your group is adopting a different approach.