

NorthBay Teambuilding Option #3

Build – A – Boat

Introduction: Your group will be challenged to design and build you own boat that will be test in the NorthBay pool or the Chesapeake Bay. Your NorthBay facilitator will meet your group and provide an overview of the day’s program. Your group will then be broken up into smaller teams; this can either be prearranged by you, or can be done by the facilitator.

Team Roles and Goals: Each group has the opportunity before they get started to talk about what their specific roles are going to be in the group (who is going to be the captain, architect, etc). Teams will also have the chance to determine what their goals are (make it across the pool with out sinking; make it across the pool in a designated amount of time, etc) These goals can also be a built in part of the program brought forward by the facilitator.

Develop Blueprints: At this point, teams will be shown what supplies they will have to build their boats and will given time to plan and develop their boat design. Groups will also be shown other supplies that they earn during the construction phase to help add to their boat design.

Construction: Do you build a longer boat that is faster, or a shorter boat which is easier to steer? How big does the boat have to be to still be buoyant? During this time teams are able to earn more supplies and share or exchange supplies with other groups.

Presentation of Boat: Before the launch, each group will prepare a presentation of their vessel for the rest of the group.

Launch: Time to see if the planning, hard work, and designs will float. Will the elected boat captains be able to pilot their vessel from point A to point B, or will it pull a Titanic and end up at the bottom? Groups can decide if they want to add a competitive edge to this stage as well.

Group Discussions/Debriefs: Your NorthBay facilitator will lead your group in discussions throughout the day based on questions that are tailored to the goals of your group. Our facilitators use their experience and knowledge of your group to carefully let the group decide what they took from each activity, with the facilitator there to skillfully help guide and steer the discussion, and not “tell” the group what they taking away from the activity.