

1-5

Building Team Identity

In Task 1-1 and Task 1-4, you mapped your identity and created a food story about a food you like. This is your personal identity when it comes to food. As a team, you also have a team identity and know things as a group. This is your team's identity. Each person might have similarities and differences between their personal and team identities. This is okay and normal. It is important to understand how these similarities and differences between your personal and team identities may affect the decisions you or the team make during your research.

Objective



In this task, you will share your work from Task 1-1 and Task 1-4 to help build a team identity map. This team identity map can then be used during your research to see if any part of your identities may be affecting your personal or team decisions.

1. Go to the Task 1-5 folder to get the Building Team Identity instructions and questions. There is only one version of this task.



2. Follow the instructions to play Round One—Team Identity.

3. Look at the Team Identity example in the Task 1-5 folder for guidance during both rounds.

4. As a team, discuss the round one discussion questions.

5. Follow the instructions to play Round Two—Sharing Team Food Stories from Task 1-4.

6. After everyone has shared their food story, stand up as a team. Continue to hold onto the string.

7. As a team, discuss the round two discussion questions.

8. Talk about the goal of creating an identity as a team to help build relationships and break down stereotypes, before you begin your research.

- Why is it important to let everyone share their ideas and stories?
- Why must we be considerate of everyone's ideas on a team?



Research Tip

The team will use this team identity map in future tasks. Keep it in a safe place so the team can easily access it later.

Hooray! You completed Task 1-5. Check it off the task list. *Go to Task 1-6!*





Task 1-5. Building Team Identity

Materials

Large ball of yarn, string, rope, or fishing line

Paper

Pen, pencil, or marker

1. Gather students in a circle, sitting on the floor or in chairs.
2. Hold a large ball of yarn, string, rope, or fishing line.
3. You will play two rounds.

Round One: Team Identity

Remind the team about the following norms.

- Recognize the benefits of listening to a range of different perspectives and viewpoints.
 - Be open to new ideas and perspectives that challenge your own.
 - Be willing to cooperate with others to change things for the better.
 - Use active listening skills.
 - Face the person talking.
 - Look them in the eye.
 - Be attentive.
1. Begin by writing the word **TEAM** on the board or on a large piece of paper. Circle it!
 2. The team leader will start by sharing the one thing they circled about their identity from Task 1-1.
 3. They will also share why this aspect is more influential than the others.
 4. The team leader will add this aspect of their identity around the word **TEAM** on the team identity map.
 5. Then the team leader will roll or pass the ball of yarn, string, or rope to another team member, without letting go of the end of the yarn.
 6. The team member who gets the ball of yarn tells their name and shares one thing they circled about their identity from Task 1-1.
 7. They also share why this aspect is more influential than others.
 8. The team will add this aspect to the team identity map.
 9. Then the team member who just shared will hold onto the yarn at the spot where they caught it and roll the ball of yarn, string, or rope to another team member without letting go.
 10. Repeat until all members of the team have shared and added one aspect to the team identity map.
 11. The team should have created a giant web.
 12. Hold on to the string for round two.





Remind the team that you will now engage in a discussion. When engaging in any type of meaningful discussion as a team, we must respect our team. Use these meaningful conversation starters in your discussion to respect your other team members.

- I agree with _____ because . . .
- I disagree with _____ because . . .
- I'd like to go back to what _____ said about . . .
- I'd like to add _____
- I noticed that . . .
- Another example is . . .
- So, what you are saying is . . .

Round One Discussion Questions (while holding the string)

- When one person pulls on the string, do other people feel it?
- How does the web of string relate to the idea of teamwork?
- Compare and contrast your personal identity map with the team map.
- Why is it important to understand the identity of other people on your team?

Round Two: Team Food Stories

Continue holding onto the string or yarn. Round two follows the same norms as round one, but we will now be focusing on sharing your personal food story about a food item from Task 1-4.

1. Start round two by having the team leader share their personal food story from Task 1-4.
2. Place each story on or around the team identity map. Another option is to make a team food stories wall in the space where you are working to hang up or display all the stories written by the team.
3. Repeat until all members of the team have shared their food story and added it to the team identity map.
4. Allow the team time to view all the stories to learn more about different team members.

Round Two Discussion Questions

- If some team members dropped the string, what effect does it have on the strength of the web?
- Compare and contrast your personal identity map and food story to the team food stories.
- Why is it important to understand what the entire team knows and thinks about food before we start our research?

Go back to the Research Guide

