

# Team Up!

Compact and effective activities for building,  
strengthening and stretching working relationships



# How to use the Team Up! eBook

Want to create change in your team? Get everyone involved! Our Team Up! eBook is full of activities that will help you increase recognition, teamwork, improve customer service, and engage participants in fun and effective learning experiences.

Some of these are one-time activities whereas others create an ongoing program, which eventually stops being a program and becomes the way your group operates. All the ideas in this book have been field-tested and refined by more than 60 practitioners, so you know they work!

Each activity describes the goal, the number of people who can participate, an approximate length for the activity, and props you will need. Some of the props are exclusive Baudville products while others you can find in your local store.

We've divided the eBook into six chapters that you can download separately. That way, you only get the activities you're interested in. Download them all and be prepared for any activity!

**Chapter 1:** Recognition

**Chapter 4:** Milestones

**Chapter 2:** Team

**Chapter 5:** Icebreakers

**Chapter 3:** Customer Service

**Chapter 6:** Energizers

Whether you incorporate an activity into your everyday routine or use them sparingly, we hope these ideas inspire your team!

*“Together we succeed,  
with everyone giving their all. Our team achieves its goals,  
and becomes more impressive every day!”*

## About Baudville

Baudville, the place for daily recognition, continues to be the leading innovator in day-to-day recognition solutions. Baudville's day-to-day recognition solutions appeal to today's increasingly diverse workforce with contemporary designs and relevant messaging, motivating and engaging workplaces world-wide. Baudville has been declared one of the best companies to work for in its area and strives to create the ultimate work experience for its employees. For more tips and ideas to create a positive culture, visit the [Baudville Recognition Resource Center](http://Baudville.com) on [Baudville.com](http://Baudville.com).

CHAPTER FIVE

# Icebreakers

# “All the Dirt” Bingo

**Goal:** Warm up the group.

**Number of people:** 6 to 20.

**Time:** 15-30 minutes, depending on the number in the group.

**Props:** [Jumbo postcards](#): one per person.

## Step-by-Step:

1. Create a bingo card graphic of 16 blocks. In each block, print humorous or interesting personal information such as “received speeding ticket,” “own red shoes,” “worked here for more than 5 years,” “have more than one pet,” etc. Leave one square blank.
2. Print your bingo cards on the jumbo postcards.
3. Give each person a bingo card.
4. Ask them to PRINT a secret attribute or personal fact in the blank square (so their handwriting can’t be identified).
5. Take back all the cards, shuffle them, and deal them out again. If anyone gets his own card, take back five cards, shuffle, and give them back until no one has his own card.
6. Instruct participants to walk around the room, talking to each other to find out who “fits” each square and writing that person’s name into the square on her own bingo card.
7. Call time after 10, 15, or 20 minutes, depending on the size of your group.
8. Ask each to count and report the number of names they’ve written on their cards, and add them on a board or flip chart as they report. Total the numbers and humorously celebrate the all the “dirt” we now know about each other!

# Hats Off to You!

**Goal:** Warm up a group or create fun on a special day.

**Number of people:** 4-20.

**Time:** 20 minutes.

**Props:** Paper hats folded from 11"x17" sheets of paper, crayons and markers, scissors, colored paper, glue, tape, feathers, ribbons, or anything colorful and fun which might be glued to a paper hat.

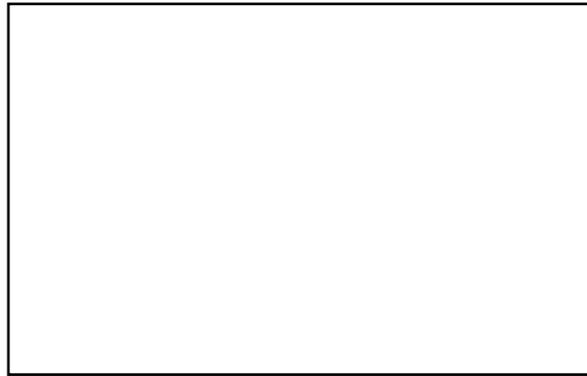
## Step-by-Step:

1. Prepare hat "templates" by folding 11"x17" sheets of paper into hats that can be decorated and worn. You'll need one per person.
2. Write the names of all participants on pieces of paper and put into a hat.
3. Ask each person to draw a name and then decorate a hat for the person whose name he drew. Ask him to decorate that hat with symbols or words which symbolize that person's strengths or skills. Fun things about the person can also be included.
4. People may return to their work areas to make their concoctions in secret.
5. Ask everyone to deliver the hat she made to her secret partner when it's finished.
6. Everyone wears his hat all day for a day that's filled with smiles.

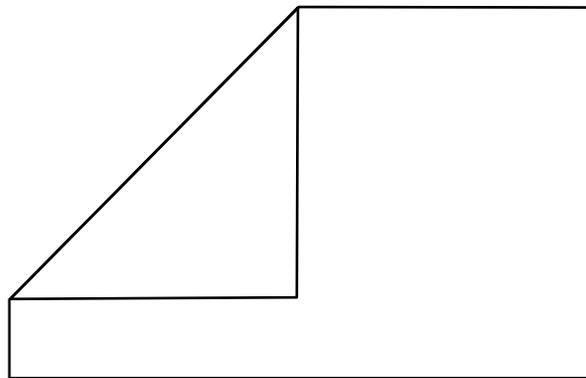
# Hats Off to You!

**STEP ONE:**  
Fold Paper in Half

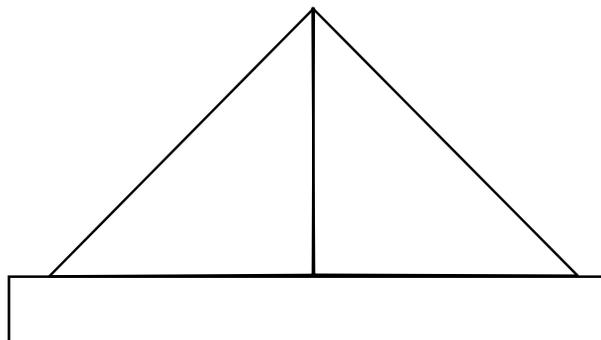
-- Fold--



**STEP TWO:**  
Fold both top corners in towards the middle evenly.



**STEP THREE:**  
Fold bottom up on both sides, each to their own side.



# Stress Person

**Goal:** When stress in your organization is unusually high, don't just break the ice, melt it!

**Number of people:** 4 to 20.

**Time:** 15 minutes.

**Props:** Flip chart paper, four or more colors of marking pens, masking tape, [Squeezable Praise™ stress toy](#).

## Step-by-Step:

1. Ask the group to count off 1-4. Ask all "ones" to congregate in one corner, "two's" in another, and so forth.
2. Ask each group to tape four sheets of flip chart paper together to form a rectangle which will roughly accommodate a human body lying on it, with his arms extended to the side.
3. Ask that one person in each group volunteer to be the artist's model, who will allow another member (the artist) to trace the outline of his body on the paper. The group can either tape the paper to the wall and have the model stand against it, or put it on the floor and have the model lie on it.
4. When the body is drawn, the paper is taped to the wall, and each group member draws a symbol on the body in the place where she physically feels stress (hammer in head, knot in stomach, sweat on brow, etc.).
5. When finished, take turns having the whole group visit each Stress Person, ask that group's members to point out his or her stress symbol, and explain:
  - a. What she feels
  - b. What triggers this feeling
6. Give a Squeezable Praise stress toy to each person to help him relieve his stress.
7. Keep the art on the wall for the duration of the meeting and keep adding to it for fun.



# Sole Mate Search

**Goal:** Introductions and icebreaker.

**Number of people:** 6-30.

**Time:** 10 - 20 minutes (depending on group size).

**Props:** Flip chart or erasable board and marker.

## Step-by-Step:

1. Ask everyone to stand up and move to an open space in the room where it's large enough to make a circle.
2. Tell the group they now have the chance in a lifetime to find their Sole Mates. Write "Sole Mate" on the flip chart or board. Ask if they notice anything unusual about the way it's spelled. Ask them to guess what this means.
3. Tell them that you want them to look around the circle and find a pair of shoes that either:
  - a. Is similar to theirs, or
  - b. They'd like to own
4. Ask them to walk to the person wearing those shoes and then, together, find a quiet corner somewhere in the room to talk.
5. Write them a list (on your flipchart or board) of facts to find out about their Sole Mates, such as (select only three from below, to keep it brief):
  - a. Name
  - b. Nickname
  - c. Job title
  - d. Job they had before this one
  - e. What do you like most/dislike most about your work?
  - f. What's your hobby?
6. Give them a total of 5 minutes to interview each other, and ask them to be ready to reveal all about their Sole Mate when time is up.
7. Have Sole Mates introduce each other, then return to seats.
8. Variation: Later in the day, if you want to do an exercise using four people per group, you can ask them all to stand with their Sole Mates again. Ask each pair to team up with another Sole Mate pair based on (select one):
  - a. These four pairs of shoes would make a complete wardrobe, or
  - b. These four pairs of shoes could be best friends, or
  - c. These four pairs of shoes were bought at about the same time

# Picture This

**Goal:** Get to know other people in a fun way.

**Number of people:** 6 to 20.

**Time:** 10-20 minutes, depending on the number in the group.

**Props:** Paper and pencils.

## Step-by-Step:

1. Ask participants to draw three pictures, one on each of three sheets of paper, depicting three of their favorite things to do. Keep them hidden!
2. Ask them to turn all three sheets face down, then, picking up the one on top, walk around the room showing the picture to several other people. Ask them to guess what this drawing reflects.
3. Call time after 10 minutes and ask everyone to pick up the second drawing and repeat.
4. Call time after 5 minutes and ask everyone to pick up their third drawing and repeat.
5. Call time after 5 minutes, ask everyone to be seated, and debrief by asking the group the most surprising things they learned about their co-workers.