



TEAM CRAFT®



# LEARNING THE ROPES

A TEAM CRAFT TEAM BUILDING PROGRAM

**Learning the ROPES** is an exciting and fun way to develop teamwork, relationship and problem solving skills on an outdoor ropes challenge course. A ropes course has three main activity areas to focus team effort. Most groups focus on a series of fifty



minute **Team Initiative Activities** which are intriguing and fun problem solving tasks that require total team involvement to accomplish the goal. At the outset the team challenge is to reach agreement on the goal, how they'll know when they're finished, identified resources, constraints, and related factors. The team then continues problem solving by brainstorming solutions, identifying a preferred course of action, assigning roles and responsibilities, and implementing the strategy, usually within a set time frame.

The Team Craft instructor observes team process, comments as appropriate, and facilitates a discussion following each activity. The discussions encourage open communication about the effectiveness of everyone's involvement. Teams typically identify parallels between the process used on the course and how they approach problems with similar dynamics in the work place. When the team is successful,



members identify qualities to apply at work. When they are less than effective, they consider alternative approaches they can try out in later activities. Participants are encouraged to track personal observations in the journal section of their program guide to reference during action planning at the end of the program.

**The Low ROPES** activities take place on cables and other props a few feet off the ground. Trust and one-to-one interaction between team mates is emphasized in these activities. Mutual support, sharing



control and coaching for shared success are necessary to accomplish the tasks.

**The High ROPES** events take team members to new heights. With total team support and involvement, participants work through a series of climbing and balancing activities up to thirty-five feet in the air. Each person selects their personal level of challenge and then experiences the



thrill of reaching beyond perceived limits while achieving their personal goal, with total team involvement and support.

## Common Learning Themes:

### *Team Initiative Activities*

- Group problem solving skills
- Valuing Personal Style Differences
- Interactive listening
- Leadership / followership
- Role clarification
- Quality standards

### *Low & High ROPES Activities*

- Trust, control, & empowerment
- Personal risk taking
- Managing feelings and emotions
- Celebrating Success

**Program Length:** Our classic Learning the ROPES course is a three day program that is guaranteed to build an effective team. Shorter formats are one-half to two days.

**Group Size:** Activity teams consist of 8 to 12 members. Several activity teams can be involved in the same program.

**Program Location:** Austin program sites are at The Hills Fitness Center and Barton Creek Resort. Other sites are accessible across North America and beyond.

## The Framework for Learning:

*At the Start: Set Learning Targets*

*At the End: Action Planning*

Want more details on why and how to plan your program?

**For more information about this and six other teambuilding programs plus additional services**

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