# Review Activities

# Chapter 9: Getting along with Coworkers

For each chapter in Job Savvy, students have received **Workbook Activities** and margin activities with **Activities Supplements**. Students have direct access to these activities in the print and ebook workbook. As instructors, you may choose to assign the following **Review Activities** to help students review the content they have learned and practiced, and to evaluate student comprehension.

The need for tolerance in the workplace is a hot topic these days because of increasing diversity in the workforce. Employees must be able to find solutions to conflicts with coworkers.

When my sons were young, one of my greatest summer pleasures was watching their T-ball games. No one sits on the bench in a T-ball game; everybody plays. Because there are 15 to 20 kids on a team, the outfield has lots of coverage. With one fierce swing, a real slugger can send the ball into the outfield. And the outfield goes wild, each child trying desperately to grab the ball from the other. That’s when you suddenly realize that your child isn’t a team player.

Teamwork is important. On the playing field, a sports team that can’t work together doesn’t win. In the laboratory, a team of scientists can achieve more if the members share ideas. Even at home, sharing household duties gets the job done faster, allowing leisure time for everyone.

In the workplace, teamwork has become common in recent years. Managers and supervisors have been trained to organize workers into teams. They view themselves as team leaders, and they expect each person to cooperate in achieving the same goal. It’s vital that students understand the importance of getting along with other workers.

## Review Activity: Tinker Toys

Divide the group into work teams of four people. Place a Tinker Toy sculpture on a table. Allow the group to observe the sculpture for one minute; then cover it with a box.

Give each group just enough Tinker Toys to create the same sculpture. Their job is to recreate the sculpture using all of the pieces. Emphasize that this is a team effort. Allow the groups time to complete their sculptures. Uncover the original sculpture for comparison. Using the following questions, to discuss the way the group completed this task.

* Was there a group leader? Who was it?
* Was there disagreement in the group?
* How was this disagreement approached?
* How did the group react to the leader?
* If there was no leader, how did the group organize to solve the problem?
* What would have made working together easier?

## Review Activity: Guest Speaker

Contact an HR specialist or diversity trainer to speak to your class about diversity in the workplace.

## Review Activity: Synergy Experiment

To introduce the phenomenon of synergy, have the class read the information in the “Synergy” box on page 139, then engage students in the following experiment.

Divide the participants into two groups. Explain that each group will be manufacturing paper chains. You will need to supply glue and precut paper strips (½" by 4¼") for participants. Instruct the first group to form teams of three. Give the teams time to plan how they will perform this task.

While the first group is planning, explain to the second group that they will work alone. The second group members are not to communicate with each other in any way.

Allow the two groups to begin working at the same time. After five minutes, stop the workers. Compare the work of the two groups. Did the teams of three produce longer chains?