

EXPERIENTIAL TRAININGS

CHALLENGE/ROPES COURSES



**LEADERSHIP
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WHERE IS YOUR TEAM? WHERE ARE YOU?

Access Talent

Green Grass

Let's Play

The Heights

Portables

Young at Heart

Adventures

Completion

"Knowledge is experience,
everything else is information"

Albert Einstein

ACCESS TALENT



Your staff, employees, partners and friends are smart. They know about teamwork, communication and leadership; have multiple degrees, awards and certificates; know what letter combination represents their unique style, where they fall on a personality quadrant, or what their IQ is. Their spare time is filled with bowling leagues, little leagues and fantasy leagues; Super Bowls, World Cups and golf tournaments; community theater, volunteer outings and holiday dinners.

Accessing this knowledge in the moment of crisis, when clients, customers and co-workers have real life issues at stake, is the realm of experiential trainings.

“Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships”

Michael Jordan



“One must learn by doing the thing; though you think you know it, you have no certainty until you try.”

Sophocles



GREEN GRASS

Most, but not all, experiential learning happens outdoors, in natural settings. Do not let the green grass fool you. The Ropes Course is a laboratory. The results are more a product of discovery and revelation, than instruction or methodology.

The initiatives are designed to include every participant regardless of physical ability, endurance, talent, or inclination. Challenge by choice means one always chooses their level of participation. Value nearly always exceeds participation and expectation, simply by showing up.

“Teach only when cornered, otherwise let the people learn.”

Keith King

LET'S PLAY



A day might look like this:

- Introduction
- Warm up activities
- Divide group into pods of 8 - 12 participants
- Short walk to the sites
- Ground level challenges
- Lunch, catered, or arranged
- Regroup
- Climbing initiatives
- Review of the day

“The way you do anything,
is the way you do everything”

As retold by Andi Burgess
Challenge U., San Diego CA



A program's length can range from half a day to an entire week, depending on the goals and resources of the group. Although some of the activities are simply fun, most of them are designed to spark discussion. Some organizations focus on reinforcing smaller teams that will fuel future success. Other groups are discovering team building and personal strategies that transcend the random grouping of personalities during the program. At the end of the day, all relationships are strengthened, interactive strategies are formulated, and valuable work is accomplished through the process.

"You cannot teach a man anything; you can only help him find it within himself.

Galileo

THE HEIGHTS

A component of many experiential learning programs is climbing. One does not have to climb high, or climb at all, to get value from the event. High elements transform the program from an academic exercise, into a an activity with something real at stake. Participants rise to the occasion as members of the safety belay team, as coaches, cheerleaders, supporters, and as climbers.

Safety is always the primary consideration. All equipment surpasses national standards and receive regular, third party inspections. Participants are encouraged not to climb if they have any physical limitations, and should not to go beyond their personal comfort levels. Taking care of one's physical and mental well being is an important aspect of any program, and is one of the important distinctions participants discover.



PORTABLES

“Tell me and I forget. Show me and I remember. Involve me and I understand.”

Chinese Proverb

Experiential trainings are about process and discovery. Nothing beats a natural setting, but logistics, weather, or other issues may require adaptation and accommodations. Outdoor activities can be altered and other initiatives are designed specifically for indoor spaces including, conference rooms, cafeterias, hotels, classrooms or offices.



YOUNG AT HEART



Experiential programs transcend culture, intelligence, physical ability and age. Pre-teen aged participants become aware of empathy, best effort, and conflict resolution; teens add planning and advanced communication techniques; late teens and young adults include self discipline, trust, and sacrifice to this list. Most of the same activities are used, but modified to be appropriate for the participants. The differences are found mostly in the process and the conversations that surround the activities.

“The things we have to learn before we do them, we learn by doing them.”

Aristotle



Valuable experiences can happen in a small room, but the world is large, so one might as well take advantage of it. Exploring different environments can be an exhilarating, empowering adventure. Activities like day long kayaking excursions, and weekend camping trips, provide unique challenges and lifetime memories.

“We shall not cease from exploration and the end of all our exploring will be to arrive where we started and know the place for the first time.”

T.S.. Eliot, Four Quartets



COMPLETION

"I believe that a ropes course provides everything anyone could want. They provide mental challenge, physical challenge and emotional challenge. A good ropes course helps teach termination, goals, success orientation, team-building skills and self-confidence."

Linda Hansen
Burns Recovered Support Group,

"There is a clear distinction between the days we entered the Masters program without starting with a ropes course, and now. Now the students come to class as a team, in relationships, ready to begin an extremely demanding program. This is not simply a nice day, it is essential to our success."

Zuzana Hlavacova
Program coordinator
MSMIS, Florida International University

"I admit it, I didn't want to do it. I thought it would be fun for some of the staff, the outdoor types, but not me, and especially not my partners, and there was real work to do. By lunch I was thanking my HR person Rachel for setting this up, and that's before we climbed. We were not a broken company, but now the bond is tangible and quantifiable by lower turnover expense, less sick days, efficiency, year end profits."

Jorge Rodriguez
Regional Manager
Wendy's Restaurants

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Design and most photography: Clay Goldstein
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