

Fostering Community and Inclusion in Online and Hybrid Teaching Settings

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Team Tally Source

Lisa Sieverts learned about Team Tally from Jennifer Stanchfield, author of *Inspired Educator*, *Inspired Learner* and *Tips & Tools for the Art of Experiential Group Facilitation*.

Stanchfield lists these possible purposes as appropriate for Team Tally: active engagement, transition, conversation starter, community building, fair play, communication, commonalities/differences, reflection, context setting, academic review, formative assessment, differentiation, discussion, emotional connection to learning, empathy, introducing a topic, playful learning, and peer interaction. You may discover even more uses as you experiment with Team Tally.

See also Exp_Ed_Neuroscience.PDF

📄 Exp_Ed_Neuroscience.pdf

Jennifer Stanchfield Website and Book Sales

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Team Tally Instructions

- Divide participants into groups of 4 or 5, try to make the groups about the same size
- Give each group a Team Tally sheet. We use Google Docs to do this for online classes, making as many copies of our master document as needed so that each group has their own Google doc.
- We typically use about 4-8 questions total, depending on the time available. This exercise benefits from relatively long breakout sessions, 20-30 minutes.

Sample Team Tally Questions

Part of the power of Team Tally is the way you can modify the questions to best meet your objectives. Below is a sample Team Tally with more questions than you would ever want to use but we hope these examples provoke your curiosity and ideas about how to use Team Tally in your classes.

The questions about pockets, pets, instruments, and language are important for building rapport while answering relatively easy questions; you should use at least one of these. We also like ending with the question about “the story of your name” as it helps people to bond and to remember names.

Instructions

In this community building and reflection exercise, you will work with your team to answer the questions. First, choose a scribe for your group. Talk through each prompt and come up with a cumulative score for your group for each item. All items and scoring are open to interpretation and adjustment by your group.

Topic	Team Points
One point for each pocket on all clothes worn by the entire team.	
One point for each pet in your households (fish only count as one pet). If you can introduce your pet on camera or via photo, you receive an extra point.	
One point for each musical instrument team members know how to play.	
One point for each team member who speaks a language besides English (add a point per language).	
One point for each person who can name a new activity, artistic endeavor, or sport that they have tried this past year?	
One point for each person who can name a leader, teacher or coach who influenced them. To receive the points, describe this person’s positive leadership qualities to your team– i.e. what was it about them that made them such a positive teacher/leader/coach?	
One point for each person who can name an inspirational figure who inspires you. To receive the points, describe what it was about this person that influenced you.	
One point for each person who can name a teacher, leader, or public figure in the sciences who influenced them. To receive the points, describe this	

person's positive leadership qualities to your team– i.e. what was it about them that made them such a positive teacher/leader/public figure?	
A point for anyone who can share what they hope to take away from this conference/class/workshop experience.	
A point for anyone who can share a concept learned today that they will bring back to their work/projects/research/etc.	
A point for each person who has an activity, tool or pearl for best understanding and remembering material in a life sciences course that they would like to share.	
One point for each team member who can share a favorite technique for building rapport and community in their online groups. Share the activity or technique with your team to receive points.	
One point for each team member who can share a favorite engagement, community building or reflection activity they use with their groups. Share the activities/techniques to receive your points.	
A point for each person who has an activity, tech tool, Zoom trick, or facilitation technique related to project work that they would like to share.	
One point for each team member who can share what drew them to the field of science/education/project management/etc.	
A point for each person who shares a success story, silver lining, or funny moment from their experience with a project.	
A point for each team member who can share a success story, accomplishment, or proud moment from this school year/semester/etc.	
A point for each person who can share a way they plan to bring some joy and laughter into their practice as an educator/student/scientist/project manager/etc. in 2023.	
A point for each person who tells the story of the meaning or history of their first or last name.	
Team Total Points	

After you have tallied your team's total score, go back and reflect as a group on 2-3 questions that you thought sparked the most meaningful conversation. Put an asterisk next to those questions. Lastly, chat with your group about how you can adapt this activity to meet your own community building or academic content.