



Habit 6: Synergize

*** Remember – this material is based on 7 Habits.

Synergy is:

- When two or more people work together to create a better solution than either could do alone.
- Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.
 - Helen Keller

Synergy is Everywhere

Synergy is:

- Keeping promises
- Being happy that we're different
- Working in teams
- Being open minded
- Thinking outside the box
- Coming up with third alternatives
- Brainstorming

Synergy is NOT:

- Breaking promises
- Just tolerating differences
- Working alone
- Thinking you're always right
- Always coloring within the lines
- Compromising
- Insisting on only one right answer.

How to get to Synergy

- To build and create synergy you have to look for it.
- You have to see that each individual is unique and value that uniqueness.

Discuss Examples of Synergy

That you see in the following:

- Nature
- School
- Family
- Community
- Work

Activity

- Take out a clean sheet of paper.
- Fold in thirds – long way.
- Fold in half the other way.
- And in half again.
- You should have 12 boxes.

In the boxes -

- Randomly write the following six things in six different boxes:
 - Writes stories, plays or poetry
 - Cooks extremely well
 - Plays a musical instrument
 - Speaks more than one language
 - An excellent athlete
 - Enjoys leisure reading

Now fill in the rest.....

- Write six more descriptions in the blank boxes on your paper.
- When everyone is finished – wander around the room and find people that match the descriptions and write their names in the appropriate box.
- See how many people in your class you can write in each box.

By doing this activity.....

- You see the importance of diversity.
- You see how each person is unique.

- Think about yourself.
- How are you different and unique?
- Those attributes bring creativity to the table to reach synergy.

Getting to Synergy Action Plan

- Define the problem or opportunity
- Their way (seek first to understand the ideas of others)
- My way (seek to be understood by sharing your ideas)
- Brainstorm (create new options and ideas)
- High Way (find the best solution)

Creating A Synergy Action Plan with your Scenerio.....

- Define the problem or opportunity
- Their way (seek first to understand the ideas of others)
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Things you can do today.....

- When you meet a classmate or neighbor with a disability or impairment, don't feel sorry for them or avoid them because you don't know what to say. Instead, go out of your way to get acquainted.
- Share a personal problem with an adult you trust. See if the exchanging of viewpoints leads to new insights and ideas about your situation.

Things you can do today.....

- Brainstorm with your friends and come up with something fun, new and different to do this weekend, instead of doing the same old thing again and again.
- The next time you are having a disagreement with a parent, try going to the 'Action Plan.' Define the problem, listen to them, share your views, brainstorm and find the best solution.



Now go out
and do
something
different than
you did
yesterday!