

Interference Night

Station 1 / Activity 1

INTERFERENCE INTRODUCTION SKIT

In this activity, the team will present to their parents a skit about Interference. This is an opportunity for them to build their teamwork and apply their story-telling skills.

(For the team)

YOUR CHALLENGE: Present a TV ad or public service announcement to your parent that explains the rules of interference, and demonstrates why it is so important that they NOT interfere. Your ad must:

- 1) Introduce the concept of interference and explain the rules
- 2) Show the parents what they can and cannot do based on the Interference Triangle
- 3) Present three scenes (based on the interference card scenarios) where you demonstrate interference and *show the negative effect when someone interferes with your solution.*

Station 2 / Activity 2

Interference Contract and Caution Signal

Step 1

With the team and parents, develop an Interference Contract that defines what parents can - and cannot - do to help the team along with their solution. Using four quadrants and post-it notes, have the team and parents make “May not” and “MAY” statements around interference and post them in the quadrants. **

Parents CAN	Parents CANNOT...
Team CAN...	Team CANNOT...

For example:

Parents MAY help us learn to sew

Parents MAY ask us how much fun we're having

Parents MAY encourage us to keep going when we're frustrated

Parents MAY NOT give us fabric and tell us how it would look great in a costume

Team CAN ask parents to bring snacks

Team CANNOT ask parents for suggestions on solving they are working on

Suppose the team simply wants parents to NOT ask them how it's going at all, and that is a place where you'll have to help facilitate the discussion. Parents want to know what their kids are up to. If the team has discussed this ahead of time, it will help move this discussion along.

Step 2

Have the team and parents come up with a signal or phrase to indicate when they are entering the “Danger Zone” at the top of the Interference Triangle (with special props if they can alliterate the letter “I”).

EX: “epic gasp! Interference!”

Station 3 / Activity 3

Parent Skills List - I can teach you how to...

Here is where the team can find out what their parents can do. Make a 2-column list of skills parents - and extended family/friends the parents might know - can offer their team. For example:

Skills/Potential Resources	Who
Use power tools safely	Mr. Jackson
Sew	Mr. Powers, Mrs. Little...
Welding	Paul's uncle Larry
Electric wiring	

It's okay if some of it is silly; let team and parents have a little fun. Suppose someone is an avid skydiver; let that go on the list!

Station 4 / Interference Quiz

At this point, now that parents understand interference, have them take the Interference Quiz. (Have the team discuss with them any incorrect answers.)

Station 5 / Interference Ceremony

Finally, have the team lead the parents in taking an oath to be sworn in as Interference Free Parents. Do this with appropriate fanfare and solemnity (combined with a hint of DI Silliness). (See Oath handout)

Ahead of time, have the team make certificates, stickers, medals, badges, etc. - whatever you and the team decide - to give to parents as a memento of their new status. These will be given to the parents after the swearing-in ceremony.

Step 6: Celebration

If possible, have parents and kids celebrate with Interference-Free food (that is, foods the kids have prepared without parental help). This could be as simple as chips and dip or veggie sticks,

or whatever the kids are capable of doing. For younger teams, even if it's just opening packages and putting things in bowls, consider letting the team do it.

AFTER THE FACT

Consider giving team members the interference cards to let them play periodically with their parents.