



Project Connect Introduction

For the first time, the Toobeez program has been adapted as a useful teaching tool for utilization in schools and educational forums. Toobeez are a unique means of teaching academics, social skills, teamwork and problem solving. The activities developed with Toobeez are designed to challenge students to evaluate concepts from a practical point of view with hands-on learning opportunities.

Teachers can use Toobeez as an innovative tool to implement valuable activities in the classroom. The **Team Series** provides excellent resources and activities to lead meaningful teambuilding experiences with groups. The **Scholastic Series** of workbooks includes additional information on the current educational practices listed below and how the Toobeez scholastic workbooks address these practices.

Brain-based Research
Multiple Intelligence Theory
Differentiated Instruction
Problem Solving
Character Education Themes
Teambuilding & Connections with Others
Collaborative Hands-On Experience

The use of Toobeez in the classroom can play an important role in establishing connections between students, peers and teachers!

Sample lesson plans are located on pages 6 - 9.

(Please note: the “Activity Notes” and “Activity Variations” sections have been omitted)

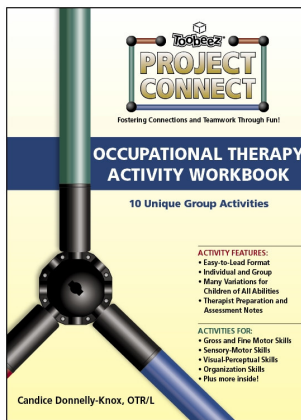
Project Connect Materials

Project Connect is dedicated to providing cutting-edge teambuilding activities and academic tools for educators. These activities can be used for exciting educational days and can reinforce everyday moments with both youth and adults!

Project Connect offers the following products:

Toobeez

Toobeez are the incredible construction tubes used to build and create the activities for your group! A one-of-a-kind construction system, Toobeez give you the chance to "connect" as a group while engaging everybody in constructive play. Toobeez are a hands-on, easy-to-assemble and safe product that captivates the imagination of anyone who uses them. You can use them indoors or outdoors to hold a powerful learning experience anytime!



Activity Workbooks

The Toobeez workbooks include detailed lesson plans with safety reminders, helpful hints, procedures, debriefing questions, activity variations and more to build and develop the skills of your group. Other available workbooks include Math, Science, Language Arts, Physical Education, Teambuilding and Senior Therapy.

Multimedia Training CD

This CD is based on the award-winning book by Tom Heck entitled *The Official Toobeez Team Building Games Activity Guide*. This CD contains all of the information found in the guide plus video clips, audio interviews and other special bonus features.



Award-Winning!



Tested in 2004 by multiple teachers with families, the Toobeez Interactive Family Edition has won a Teacher's Choice Award for 2005. The Interactive Family Edition is what you get when you combine a set of Toobeez with Tom Heck's book, *The Official Toobeez Teambuilding Games and Activity Guide*, and Multimedia Training CD.

Project Connect Training Opportunities

Project Connect offers two types of training workshops designed to help any type of group leader enhance their skills!

1. **Train-the-Trainer Workshop**
2. **TEAM Workshop**



Train-the-Trainer Workshop

This workshop is for you if:

- You are an educator looking for new ways of teaching team and leadership skills
- You like learning in a fast-paced and hands-on environment

What to expect

In the Train-the-Trainer workshop, you will learn how to lead activities that develop team and leadership skills. This workshop is fun, empowering and educational. It is also experiential, meaning you will learn by doing.

You will learn activities that promote trust and creative problem solving, as well as encourage purposeful and kind communication. You will experience physical activities, as well as activities which demand high cerebral skills. You will learn how to design everything from a five-minute icebreaker to a full two-day adventure. Depending on the length of the program you choose, you can even learn how to integrate the activities into an existing curriculum.



You will learn how to deliver important debriefing (processing) skills to learn how to draw out the genius of the group by asking thought-provoking questions. When a debriefing session is delivered properly, groups learn to own the information they generate from the teambuilding activities, providing them with a sense of empowerment, connectedness and success!



This is the perfect workshop for you if you are a:

- Classroom teacher
- School counselor
- Camp counselor
- Human Resources director
- Trainer or workshop presenter
- Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

TEAM Workshop **Together Everyone Achieves More**

The TEAM workshop is for your team if you are ready to:

- Move quickly from a “good” team to a “great” team
- Have fun and be challenged in a dynamic learning environment
- Be treated with respect and dignity while leveraging the strengths of your group

Over the years, we have worked with thousands of people from all walks of life, including:

- Business teams (from such industries as investing, communications, and insurance)
- Non-profit organizations (such as YMCA, YWCA and Boys & Girls Clubs)
- Educators (including public & private school teachers, school counselors, college students, college teaching staff and international students)
- Alternative education programs (including corrections officers, after-school programs and enrichment programs)



What to expect

In this workshop, you will participate in fun activities and engaging hands-on learning exercises to help your team address vital issues so it can move forward. This workshop focuses on where you are now as a group and where you are going.

For more information about attending or scheduling teambuilding training workshops, call:

1-877-TOOBEEZ

1-877-866-2339

Contact the following websites for more information:

www.project-connect.net

www.toobeez.com

www.teachmeteamwork.com

Sample Activity

CLONE



Objectives

- Improve visual-perceptual skills
- Improve visual-motor skills
- Strengthen planning, sequencing and problem-solving skills by participation in a self-correcting activity
- Improve bilateral-coordination and upper extremity use during construction
- Strengthen visual memory and short-term memory

Preparation

Time: 5 minutes

Materials:

- 1 Toobeez set
- digital camera (optional for activity variation)
- paper and pen (optional for activity variation)
- tape (optional for activity variation)

Setup:

1. Divide the Toobeez set in half. The therapist and child should have the same exact pieces.

The Challenge

Copy a design using the visual and tactile systems. No auditory instructions will be provided.

Activity Plan

Time: 30 - 60 minutes

Space: Tabletop or floor space (the size of a gym mat)

Instruction: Individual or pairs

Helpful Hints!

Sample Activity

Be sure to review these tips prior to beginning the activity, and if necessary, share reminders with the group during the activity.

- Do not allow the child to see the shape or the design that you are creating. The child that will be constructing the design or structure should be presented with the finished product and he/she must plan where to begin
- At first, choose simple designs such as shapes or alternating patterns of colors in a straight line so the child can feel successful. Then move on to more difficult shapes, designs, patterns and structures
- Find a quiet area to minimize auditory distractions. This activity requires concentration and the less environmental distractions, the better the results

Activity Instructions

1. With younger children, and if necessary with older children, review the concept of shapes such as square, triangle and rectangle (shapes that are able to be created when using the Toobeez product).
2. With younger children, and if necessary with older children, review the colors of the Toobeez pieces.

Therapist Note

For children with visual impairments, review size concepts. Label the Toobeez as different sizes such as small (11" Toobeez), medium (16" Toobeez), large (24" Toobeez), and extra large (36" Toobeez). If using all four tubes is difficult for the child, choose only two sizes (such as 11" and 24" tubes) and label them as short and long or small and large.

3. With younger children, and if necessary with older children, review directional concepts of left and right, up and down, away from and toward, and straight and veer.
4. Read the following Activity Challenge Box.

Challenge: Copy a design using the visual and tactile systems. No auditory instructions will be provided.

Sample Activity

5. Without the child looking, the therapist should create a shape, design or structure. The difficulty of the design can increase by increasing the number of pieces used.
6. Once the therapist has completed the design, the child should then be instructed to copy the design using the same number and sizes of pieces. The therapist should not provide auditory instruction as this activity is designed to strengthen visual and tactile systems.
7. When the activity is completed, move on to the Discussion and Processing questions.

Therapist Assessment

- Supports classroom/academic goals of improving **body awareness**, pattern recognition, spatial awareness and concepts of shapes and sizes. All of these skills support math concepts
- Supports classroom/academic goals of improving visual-motor and visual-perceptual skills (to help with tasks such as copying homework from the chalkboard to a piece of paper)

Activity Discussion and Processing

Use the questions below as a guide for your discussion. Select the questions you feel will best benefit your child/student. It is not mandatory to cover every question. Make sure to let everyone share their ideas, and remind participants that everyone's opinions and feelings are important!

Work through the following questions:

- What was easy or hard about this activity?
- What frustrated you during this activity?
- What do you now know about yourself from this activity? For example, do you need your teacher to read the homework that is written on the board or can you copy homework instructions as your teacher reads them to you?