

THE HONEYMOON IS OVER!

Set Up & Materials:

1. This activity **ONLY WORKS** if it is done with **ACTUAL** co-counselors. Be sure people already know their co-counselors before this activity.
2. The Honeymoon is Over questions for each pair or triad.
3. A big, game show like sign that reads, “The Honeymoon Is Over!”
4. Enough space (indoor or outdoor) for pairs or triads to speak privately during the session.

Opening Discussion & Activity Set Up: 10-15 minutes

Leader Questions to the Group:

1. Think of an ideal “team” situation that you have been in, at some point in your life.
 - a. What made it ideal?
 - b. What did team members specifically do to make it work?
 - c. Was it always “good” - or were there times when the team didn’t function this well?
2. At camp we are definitely a team. Us with you, and YOU with EACHOTHER.
 - a. Why might some teams function better than others at camp?
 - *Communication is a priority*
 - *They like each other*
 - *They are respectful of one another...*
 - b. What gets in the way of a team functioning well?
 - *Different personalities*
 - *Disrespect*
 - *Petty arguments*
 - *Different styles*
 - *Different priorities or work ethic*
3. It is **NORMAL** for a team to go through changes. Right now you may be in the Honeymoon stage...where everyone is on their best behavior and loving each other. But eventually the Honeymoon will be over. So we need to be prepared for that.

We are going to play a game called, “The Honeymoon Is Over!” This will allow you and your co-bunk staff to talk about when things go wrong...BEFORE they actually happen. Our hope is that this will help you when the honeymoon does end.

Activity Set Up:

1. Each team should be “cabin teams” of 2-4 people. Whoever is working and living together should do this activity together.
2. We’re giving each team a set of questions. Ask these questions to interview each other.
3. The goal here is to really listen to your teammates so you can learn something about them. It may help you in the future, when you are not in the honeymoon stage.
4. You can each take turns answering one question at a time. Feel free to have a discussion that goes beyond the question. It’s meant to be a starting point.

The Honeymoon is Over - Questions: 10-15 minutes, depending on size of groups

1. What kind of kid were you? *Were you shy? Outgoing? Funny? (etc...)*
 - a. What did you do during the summer?
 - b. How are you different (and the same) now from when you were a kid?
2. What is normally your toughest (and easiest) time of day?
 - a. How do you usually act during this time?
3. What are the types of things that get under your skin or bother you?
 - a. Do you have any pet peeves I should know about?
4. When you are upset, how will I know?
 - a. What should I do when you are upset? (do you like to be left alone...)
5. Who is your biggest support right now in your life?
 - a. How do they support you best?

Debrief & Closing: 10 - 15 minutes

1. What did you learn about your teammate that is important to know? (have several people explain)
2. What is the benefit of doing an activity like this?
3. What commitments do you feel we should make to each other as teammates?
 - a. *When there is potential conflict?*
 - b. *When there is a challenge with a camper?*
 - c. *On a daily basis...*

Make a list on the flipchart of commitments teams should make with one another. Add your own answers or comments to the discussion.

Make sure you touch on some of these important commitments: Open Communication, Giving the benefit of the doubt, Not talking behind backs, Planning difficult situations together, Putting the Kids first, filling each other in after periods away or day’s off...