City Sleuths — Baltimore Program Overview

Are you familiar with scavenger or treasure hunts as team building activities? Well, **City Sleuths** is Team Craft's clever upgrade that is based on finding the answer to a series of riddles. This is a team building activity that works well for a group wanting a clever and engaging way to develop teamwork and relationships while participating in a less structured program format.

The standard program lasts from 2.5 to 3 hours. An extended version runs from 4 to 4.5 hours and includes a mid-point facilitated discussion to improve teamwork in a second round.

Riddles & Strategy

Each team is given a collection of riddles to solve. Teams explore Baltimore's Inner Harbor area to search out the answers. Figuring out each riddle leads them to a location where they'll find a little known humorous or curious fact related to local history, famous people, or artistic or creative aspects of the location – and score points. Teams compete to score the most points.

What makes this activity so unusual and fun is that written riddles given to each team require participants to identify curious and historic elements by working past the obvious and easy answers. Each riddle is designed to challenge assumptions and typical ways of thinking, but also uses shared knowledge of general trivia an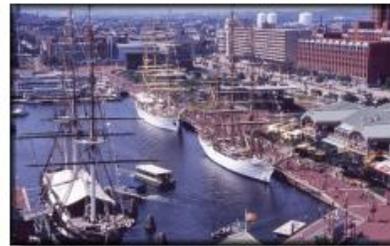d observation to generate the answer. To be successful teams need to be creative – think outside the lines - but still follow a logical thread. First impressions are typically wrong. So teams are encouraged to involve each member in sharing observations and ideas.

The riddles cleverly cloak the identity of the building to look for, and the information needed there. It requires effective communication, shared problem solving, and open minds - all important elements of successful teamwork.

Experience Baltimore's Inner Harbor area

This revitalized section of Baltimore reflects the best of contemporary American life that is anchored in a historic past. During the activity participants learn about events in the harbor that were significant to American history, see kitschy and humorous artifacts, and engage in group mind-play with myriad curiosities—scientific, environmental, and entertaining in scope.

The program is like a speed tour of points of interest that participants experience in greater detail than most visitors.

Prior experience with the activity location is unnecessary – it can actually work to a group's detriment if participants make too quick an assumption.

Team Craft Facilitators support teams as appropriate. We debrief the experience so teams can identify skills that were needed to be successful.

Each correct answer earns points relative to its difficulty. Highest scoring team members are each awarded an engraved gold teamwork medal on a ribbon. Everyone receives a memento of the experience.

Let us solve the riddle of what program to do for your upcoming meeting. City Sleuths is the answer you're looking for!

City Sleuths Characteristics

• **Groups** of from 6 to 60 people participate in 3 to 5 member teams.

• **Location**: Baltimore's Inner Harbor

• **Length**: Programs can last from two and one-half to four and one-half hours.

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