

# Synergy

Key Theme Areas – Team Development, Problem Solving, Alternative Options Generation

Synergy is all about maximizing what we have. Whether we call it leverage, or synergy, it allows us to create more with what we have.

Dictionary.com provides us with this definition of synergy “the interaction of elements that when combined produce a total effect that is greater than the sum of the individual elements, contributions, etc.” (<http://dictionary.reference.com/browse/synergy>)

Time: 5-20 minutes

Who For: Team members

## Instructions

1. Ask participants to think of a current situation they are facing and would like to explore.
2. Select a photos which represents what they see as the synergy of what they can create together.
3. As you look more closely at the photo consider some of the sparker questions such as: What’s possible? What is additive? What gets maximized?

Synergy is important for teams as it allows teams to create more than the sum of the individual parts.

Ask the team after everyone has shared:

- What is the synergy/connection between the things you have all chosen?
- What new solutions does it offer?
- What else is possible?

## Notes

Share your ideas with others

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## Notes

Synergy is the highest untapped activity of life. It creates new untapped alternatives; it values and exploits the....differences between people.  
- **Stephen Covey**

## SPARKER QUESTIONS

- What do you notice about the similarities and differences amongst the photos you chose?
- What new solutions does it offer?
- What are the connections amongst each photo?
- What else is possible?

## VIRTUAL TIPS

This can be done virtually with or without the cards. You can run the exercise using cards, words, or hand drawn images as instructed.

## POSSIBLE USES

- Team Development
- Problem Solving
- Alternative Option Generation around current challenges

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