

# The Teamwork & Teamplay

## Top Twenty Teambuilding Tools

The Best Teambuilding Props Created by Dr. Jim Cain

Not many people know this, but in addition to my career in adventure-based learning, I worked as a mechanical engineer for a Fortune 100 company. I even stacked up four college degrees, two patents and a host of technical publications over the years. Basically, I like to create and build things. Here are some of my favorite inventions that combine two joys in my life: engineering and teambuilding! You can purchase any of these teambuilding props from [www.training-wheels.com](http://www.training-wheels.com).

### 1. Teamplay Tubes

A collection of PVC tubes and connectors, used for more than a dozen team challenges, including the STEM-like activity The International Space Station.



### 2. The Water Tube



A large diameter PVC tube and wooden base. Assemble the Water Tube, drop a tennis or ping pong ball down the tube and invite your team to float the ball back to the top of the tube using a nearby water source and the cups provided. A perfectly wet teambuilding activity for those hot summer days.

### 3. Lycra Tubes

Five yards of lycra sewn into a giant rubber band-like tube for rambunctious activities, debriefing circles and more.



In addition to Lycra Tubes, T&T also has Lycra Blindfolds. Colorful, stretchy and easily washable (they are made from swimsuit material). One size fits all, and they make great ear warmers for colder environments.

### 4. Marble Tubes

Two varieties of this popular teambuilding activity are available. A closed (O shaped) PVC tube and an open (U shaped) PVC tube, used to transport marbles from point A to point B.



### 5. Raccoon Circles

You can facilitate over 200 team challenges, games, puzzles and debriefing activities with this single prop. Raccoon Circles are colorful 15 foot long segments of 1 inch wide tubular climbing webbing.



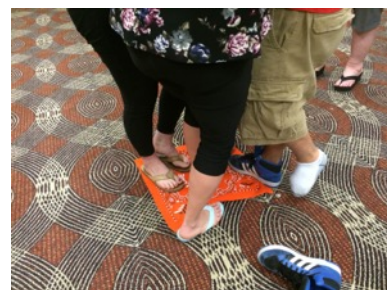
## 6. Blind Shapes / Perfect Match Kits

Two collections of wooden shapes are available. The Blind Shape activity kit has 36 wooden pieces (7 different shapes, 5 different colors, plus one star). The challenge of this activity is to determine which two pieces are missing (removed by the facilitator prior to the start of the activity), while blindfolded. The Perfect Match kit has 12 wooden pieces and two of these are identical twins. Discussing and finding these twins is made more difficult when the activity is conducted while participants are blindfolded.



## 7. FSTD Bandanas

The book *Find Something To Do!* has over 130 no prop activities inside. The FSTD bandana contains a list of all those activities, as a ready (and lightweight) reminder or memory tool for your staff, counselors, facilitators, teachers or trip leaders.



## 8. Debriefing Clickers

One of the simplest debriefing/reviewing props I know. This 'clicker' shows an imaginary image narrated by your participants, similar to the sound of the old 35mm slide projectors when they moved forward to the next slide.



## 9. Boardwalkers

Eight wooden planks with ropes and metal connectors are used to transport a team of up to 12 people from point A to point B. This activity certainly helps groups learn to work together.



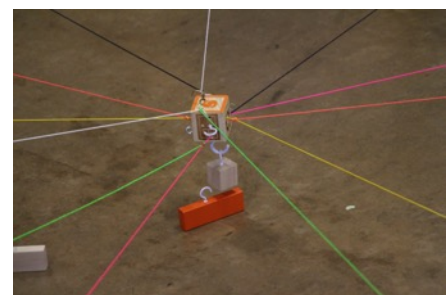
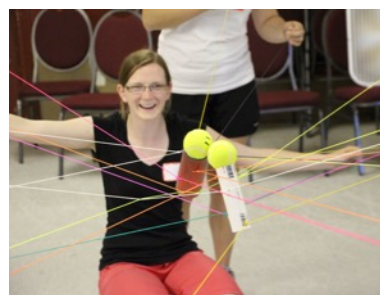
## 10. Magic Carpet

This high quality, durable industrial plastic cloth makes the perfect magic carpet. Groups are challenged to turn over their tarp without touching the ground.



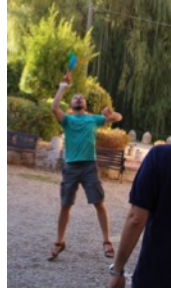
## 11. Bull Rings / 3-D Bull Rings / Goin' Fishin' Tool

These three props are some of my favorites. Bull Ring is a metal ring with twelve strings used to transport a tennis ball. The 3-D Bull Ring is a more challenging version, also used to transport a tennis ball. The Goin' Fishin' Tool is a wooden block with twelve strings and 6 metal hooks used to stack blocks or pick up a set mouse trap without setting it off.



## 12. Petecas

This unique Brazilian-inspired game is played in a circle of ten people with the goal of keeping the feathered 'bird' in the air for twenty-one hits, using a variety of techniques, including: playing with one hand, standing on only one foot, clapping three times after hitting the bird, high five a neighbour after each hit, etc.



## 13. 2B or Knot 2B Rope Kits

This consensus-building activity uses four collections of ropes with the challenge of determining which single rope in each collection holds the other four ropes together. This activity involves increasing levels of challenge.



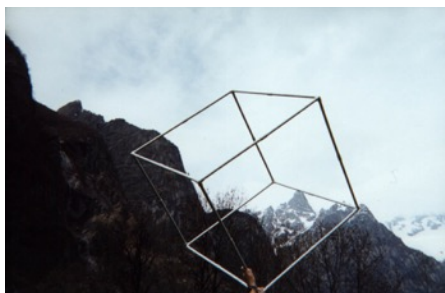
## 14. T&T Training Cards

Seventeen of my favorite card activities all rolled into a single deck of cards. Almost an entire teambuilding program in a single deck of cards. And if you like card activities for teambuilding, I have a few dozen decks of Action Pak Debriefing Cards created by Craig Rider. 100 cards with words and colorful illustrations for debriefing and reviewing.



## 15. The Basic Cube / Puzzle Cube

The Cube is a unique spider-web replacement activity (for those cases where you don't have any trees!). Balance the cube into the base stand and invite participants to pass through the cube, without knocking it over. The Basic Cube is the simplest version. The Puzzle Cube can create five different sizes of cubes, and the materials for several other team challenges as well.



## 16. Giant Jigsaw Puzzle

Invite your next group to complete the assembly of this giant jigsaw puzzle while blindfolded.



## 17. Rope Games Kit

This collection of ropes, string, webbing and cordage is used to play many of the activities included in the *Rope Games* book, by Jim Cain.

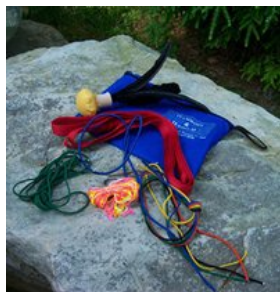


## 18. Games That Change the World Kit



This collection of teambuilding props accompanies the *Teamwork & Teamplay International Edition* book (with translations in 16 languages inside the same book!)

## 19. The T&T Team Kit



This simple kit includes seven of Teamwork & Teamplay's most requested props, including: A bull ring, a funderbird (peteca), a worm hole, a debriefing clicker, an arrowhead puzzle, a raccoon circle and two 2B or Knot 2B rope puzzles.

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## 20. Books by Jim Cain

Over the years I've managed to write sixteen books (so far), and still have a long list of ones that I hope to write in the years to come. The next book I plan to write has a collection of teambuilding activities that you can facilitate with index cards (which will be completed by the spring of 2018). But until that book is ready, here is a list of the other books I've written and where to find them.

1. **Teamwork & Teamplay**, my first book, a classic! [www.kendallhunt.com](http://www.kendallhunt.com)
2. **The Book on Raccoon Circles** (original Learning Unlimited Edition)  
I have a few copies left in my experiential garage sale (see info below).
3. **Teambuilding Puzzles** – 100 Team Puzzles (red cover self-published edition)  
I have just one copy left of this original printing.
4. **A Teachable Moment** – Debriefing Activities. [www.kendallhunt.com](http://www.kendallhunt.com)
5. **The Revised and Expanded Book of Raccoon Circles** (Kendall Hunt Edition)  
A much larger collection of RC activities. [www.kendallhunt.com](http://www.kendallhunt.com)
6. **Teambuilding Puzzles** (revised Kendall Hunt Edition) [www.kendallhunt.com](http://www.kendallhunt.com)
7. **The Ropework & Ropeplay Collection of Team Activities**  
I took the best activities from this publication of 400+ activities and turned it into the Rope Games book. I have a few photocopies left of this original edition.
8. **Raccoon Circles** – Japanese Edition, three copies available, contact Jim Cain.
9. **Find Something To Do!** no prop activities [www.training-wheels.com](http://www.training-wheels.com)
10. **The Big Book of Low Cost Training Games** (McGraw Hill Edition)  
Kindle version too! [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and [www.mheducation.com](http://www.mheducation.com)
11. **Rope Games** simple teambuilding activities with rope, string, webbing and cordage of all kinds.  
[www.training-wheels.com](http://www.training-wheels.com)
12. **Teamwork & Teamplay Training Cards** 17 team activities in one deck.  
[www.training-wheels.com](http://www.training-wheels.com) and [www.trainerswarehouse.com](http://www.trainerswarehouse.com)
13. **The Big Book of Low Cost Training Games** – Polish Edition
14. **Raccoon Circles** – Chinese Edition, I have 30+ copies available, contact Jim Cain.
15. **Teamwork & Teamplay International Edition**  
51 team activities, 16 languages, 1 world! [www.training-wheels.com](http://www.training-wheels.com)
16. **100 Activities That Build Unity, Community & Connection**  
The world's best icebreakers and so much more! [www.healthylearning.com](http://www.healthylearning.com)
17. **Teambuilding With Index Cards** (Kendall/Hunt)  
Dozens of Activities using index & playing cards! Coming in 2018.



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In addition to the props sold by Training Wheels, Inc. ([www.training-wheels.com](http://www.training-wheels.com)), I occasionally hold an 'experiential garage sale' for those props and other teambuilding resources (like books, conference handouts, debriefing tools) that I have collected over the years. If you would like a copy of the most recent experiential garage sale list, just email me your request.