Propel — Engaging Activities for Meetings, Workshops and Conferences

**PRICE:** $9.95

**DESCRIPTION:** This collection of 35 engaging and proven activities is an excellent tool for student leaders who want to turn the ordinary into extraordinary. With meeting, workshop and conference activities, the ideas within this book will add fun and positive energy to any SkillsUSA event. Moreover, student leaders have the ability to generate enthusiasm within the chapter while learning the art of influential leadership. Included in the book is a quick reference guide sorted the following ways to assist in selecting activities: alphabetical, size of group and activity level, or usage guidelines and space requirements. The 6 inch by 9 inch, 38-page book is ideal for teachers to keep tucked in next to an electronic device or members to keep in their backpack for easy use.

**ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IDENTIFICATION:**

The activities in “Propel” are designed to help students get active, work together and enjoy time with their peers. Students engaging in these fun activities will implicitly learn about the Essential Element of Teamwork. Individual activities also allow opportunities for specific Essential Element connections through the use of processing questions and context set by teachers.

**Student Learning Objectives:**

- Participate in new activities, possibly with new people.
- Expand their own comfort zone.
- Contribute to a fun and exciting atmosphere with their peers in a safe learning environment.

To purchase this educational resource, visit the SkillsUSA Store at [www.skillsusa.org/shop](http://www.skillsusa.org/shop).
IN-PERSON INTEGRATION EXAMPLE:

Activity: Bonfire Night

Additional materials needed: Firewood, matches/lighter, fire pit or safe area, accessible water hose, chairs, supplies to make s’mores and permission from the local fire department (if needed).

Time Frame: One hour

Directions: Can be used as a celebration following the completion of an event.

1. Find a safe and approved area to have the bonfire.
2. Notify your local fire department and obtain a permit (if needed).
3. Collect wood and prepare the fire pit a day before.
4. Designate members to light and monitor the fire during the event.
5. Divide the students into smaller groups and have them discuss the following questions:
   - What went well with the event?
   - What does our chapter need to focus on next?
   - What Essential Element(s) did we use and learn about during the event?
   - Respond to: I learned the most when … If we could do the activity over again, I would …
6. Provide supplies for students to make their own s’mores.

VIRTUAL INTEGRATION EXAMPLE:

Activity: Dance-off

Additional materials needed: Variety of music with positive themes.

Time Frame: 10–15 minutes

Directions:

1. Select three songs with a positive theme reflecting the SkillsUSA Framework Essential Element of Focus.
2. Connect with students using an online platform and share sound.
3. Have students set their display to gallery view and turn their cameras on.
4. Select the portion of the song that best reflects the Essential Element of Focus.
5. Tell students they will have 30 seconds to demonstrate their best dance moves when the music begins.
   - Use at least three songs to illustrate the Essential Element of Focus.
   - If 20 or more students are participating, share screen. Use an online spinner (www.superteacher tools.us/spinner/) to select four students to show their dance moves, while other students are supporting and encouraging involvement.
6. Use the breakout feature of your virtual meeting space to randomly assign small groups.
7. Task the groups with the following actions and remind each group to report back in three minutes:
   - Determine who had the best dance moves.
   - Discuss the Essential Element theme of the songs and how that Essential Element shows up in the chapter.
   - Decide one way the classroom/chapter could improve the Essential Element for all students/members.
8. Following report out, have discussion about how the Framework Essential Elements can be implemented from a distance.

If you struggle to find songs to assist in developing an Essential Element, you can search for suggestions using your favorite search engine to find “songs with positive messages for leaders.”