

The Work Plays Project

where work and play get it done



Why sit at a table and theorize about teamwork when you can use teamwork to set the table and eat what you've created together?

- Cooking together requires the same teamwork and timing as projects in the workplace.
- The kitchen offers a fresh context to refine essential collaborative and leadership skills.
- It evens the playing field, making room for hidden talents to surface.

Play With Your Food is one of the signature events of the Work Plays Project. We are focused on increasing employee engagement by playifying work-related activities. We match the team and their goal with a fun and creative place to play it out.

Whether in a kitchen, a playground, a treehouse, a garden or park, getting your team out of their familiar surroundings empowers creativity.



52 LIMITED COOKS UP TEAMWORK

getting out of the daily grind and into aprons

OVERVIEW: 52 Limited is a creative and tech resource company that connects world-class talent with leading brands, marketing departments, start-ups, design firms, ad and interactive agencies. Their staff curates creative partnerships every day.

CHALLENGE: 52 Limited was looking for a team retreat experience that spoke to the creative spirit of the company and its employees. They wanted to get the group out of their normal surroundings and give them a fun and challenging way to build their collaboration skills and enhance their working relationships.



SOLUTION: 52 LIMITED turned to Denise Ransome, creative catalyst and founder of The Work Plays Project, for the solution. She took the group to a place she knew would more than meet the challenge: The Kitchen! Denise divided the group into three teams, each responsible for a main course, a side dish, or dessert. They reviewed their recipe, planned their dish and established roles and responsibilities to gather, chop, and cook the ingredients for the meal. Time and tasks had to be managed and synchronized with the other groups so everyone could get their food to the table at the same moment.

It got intense as the minutes ticked by, ovens weren't turned on and the pasta was cooking faster than expected. A healthy mix of laughter, groans and cheers accompanied the process.

When the cooking was done, the groups gathered back together as one and enjoyed the meal they had prepared. Denise guided them in a recap while they enjoyed their meal. What worked? What didn't? What adjustments had they made to create not only a tasty dinner but one that was on time and they were proud of? They discussed how they had increased their ability to communicate directly, share leadership, and work together for a delicious outcome.

MAIN TAKEAWAY: The 52 Limited team was able to take their new understanding about each person's work and communication style back into their daily work. It's helped them be more direct and enhanced how they collaborate with each other.



"We had such a great time. We learned a lot about ourselves. I loved how clearly we all communicated and worked in unison to get things done." – Brooks Gilley, Founder 52 Limited