



AW facilitator resource kit.

HONOURING

purpose.

To build on the work done throughout a program supporting participants to acknowledge and recognise the strengths of their peers. The honouring process is used on AW programs to celebrate the end of a program using public acknowledgement of each group members' character strengths.

delivery.

There is huge creative scope for this process and how it is delivered will depend on a few factors, namely:

- Age of participants
 - E.g. If participants are younger, the process will need to be centred around fun and creativity, rather than reverence and ceremony
- Length of program
 - E.g. on a week-long expedition, an honouring ceremony might go for 90min, whereas on a 2-day activity program, it might be a 20min activity
- Size of group
 - E.g. in a small group of 15 or less participants, there is scope to allow more time for each honouring, whereas in a group of 25-30, the process of honouring each person will need to be limited.

Below are key elements of an effective honouring ceremony:

- Each participant is honoured for their character strengths (not external qualities out of their control, like awesome hair colour)
- Each participant has the chance to honour someone else

session example 1.

Group	20 x Year 6s
Program	Activity-Based
Session Length	30min
	Step one: Priming the group & framing the session (10min) On any activity-based program, time for an honouring ceremony is going to be short, so facilitator focus should be on making the session fun and meaningful in the time allocated. Option for a fun, high-energy primer includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compliment BANG!
	Step two: Frame up the ceremony (5min) Over the last X days, you have all overcome a HEAP of challenges. To do this, you have needed to draw on the strengths of the group and skills of your group members. Now you have a unique opportunity to recognise each other for your strengths. In a moment, I am going to turn the talking stick upside down and when I do, its function will be reversed. Instead of talking when the stick comes to you, you will remain silent while 1 member of your group acknowledges what strengths you have brought to their experience on this camp.
Delivery	Step three: Run the honouring (15min) Start off by modelling what you mean – I usually honour the teacher here, to show the group what's expected. Gently remind



them that they are acknowledging character strengths, not fashion sense.

session example 2.

Group	15 x Year 9s
Program	Into Adulthood
Session Length	60min
	<p>Step one: Priming the group (15min) Create excitement about the session by challenging the group to create a scared space/throne/circle for a ceremony, but don't tell them what it is for.</p> <p>Step two: Frame the ceremony (5min) In a moment, you will all get a unique opportunity to honour and acknowledge each other for the strengths you have each brought to this experience over the last X days. I would invite you to think about one or two people in this group who have had a positive impact on your experience and how they did this. What strengths or character traits do they possess that made your time on camp that much better? I will challenge you to honour your peers for their character, rather than their looks/fashion/physical traits.</p> <p>As each person sits upon the throne, three of you will have the chance to acknowledge them in front of the group.</p> <p>Step three: Run the ceremony (40min) If you think the group needs it, model the first honouring for them.</p>
Delivery	

session example 3.

Group	20 x Corporates
Program	Team-Building Day
Session Length	30min
	<p>Step One – Prime the group (5min) Play a quick game of compliment BANG!</p> <p>Step Two – Frame the ceremony (5min) I want you to imagine that at the conclusion of this day, your boss comes out and says "sorry guys, you're not going home yet, we're going bush for a week. No tech, no contact with the outside world, just the 20 of us camping out for 5 nights". Reflecting on the strengths and qualities each of you have witnessed in each other, I want you to think about which of those qualities we are going to need to bring with us into the bush.</p> <p>Step Three – Run the ceremony (20min) Now, one at a time, I will invite you to pass the stick around – only this time, when you have it, I want you to remain quiet, while 1 or 2 of your colleagues honours you for the qualities they need you to bring into the bush with them next week.</p>
Delivery	

success looks like.

- ✓ Every group member honoured for qualities that are not physical
- ✓ The group has deepened their connection
- ✓ Participants can publicly acknowledge and recognise the strengths of their peers
- ✓ The mood of the group is positive