 **Sparkler’s Cultural Rules**

The most important goal or purpose in life for a Sparkler is the accumulation of wealth (paper clips). All members of the Sparkler culture receive an equal number of paper clips at birth and have an equal opportunity to accumulate more.

Sparklers wear the same number of stickers as the paper clips he or she has. Sparklers with the greatest number of paper clips are the most highly respected in Sparkler society. When Sparklers exchange paper clips with those who have more paper clips than him or her, they have to bow deeply at the beginning of the game.

Sparklers do not spend much time together unless they are engaged in the exchange of paper clips. They like to keep a “safe” distance during paper clip exchanges, and they are uncomfortable with people who stand too close and touch their body. It is important for Sparklers to constantly fold and unfold their arms while focusing on their game strategy.

**Paper Clip Game**

To play the paper clip game, a player hides one paper clip in either the right or left hand. The other player must guess which hand has the paper clip. If the person guesses correctly, he or she gets the paper clips that were in the hand. If wrong, he or she gives the other person the same number of paper clips as were in the hand. Accumulating clips is important, so use your time wisely. It is important to keep on the move and make a lot of contacts.

After about 10 minutes, you discover that there is another culture not too far away that plays the paper clip game. This could be a great opportunity to accumulate more wealth- so organize your fellow Sparklers and head out to win more clips.

Adapted from:

Stringer, D. & Cassiday, P. (2003). *52 Activities for Exploring Values Differences*, Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press

 Rocket’s Cultural Rules

Rockets love to be together. They love to laugh, talk, and tell stories. The thing most valued in this culture is relationships. They like to stand very close to the person they are speaking to, and touch each other on the arm as a form of greeting. They also sigh loudly to signal their approval and great contentment of the conversation.

Accumulating wealth is not highly valued; in fact, displaying wealth is not appropriate. Rockets are never greedy or pushy, and they don’t care about winning games. Rockets consider the game as a communication tool.

Age is an important criterion for respect and authority in Rocket society. Rockets wear a sticker with their age written clearly. When Rockets talk with their elders, they have to bow to him or her at the beginning and end of a conversation.

**Paper Clip Game**

To play the paper clip game, a player hides one paper clip in either the right or left hand. The other player must guess which hand has the paper clip. If the person guesses correctly, he or she gets the paper clips that were in the hand. If wrong, he or she gives the other person one clip. Of course, before playing the paper clip game, Rockets should communicate with others following Rocket etiquette. Before and after each exchange of paper clips, be sure to greet, talk about family and tell stories – these personal interactions are an important part of the game. Remember, winning is not important.

Ten minutes after playing the game, you will receive visitors from another culture. This could be a great opportunity to build new relationships - they also enjoy the paper clip game!

Adapted from:

Stringer, D. & Cassiday, P. (2003). *52 Activities for Exploring Values Differences*, Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press