

# Jellybean Activity

With a large mixed selection of each color of jelly bean, ask each person to take two, considering the color of the jelly bean and, to some extent, the taste of it, but given a decision, to go with the preferred color. Tell them to hold the beans and not to eat them. Pass around the bowl(s) of jellybeans and then give the following explanation:



1. Pick 2 jellybeans representing favorite color.
2. Find somebody with same combination.
3. Find out (these questions can be changed depending on your objective):
  - a. Who they are and what they do.
  - b. What they would like to accomplish during this workshop.

**The jellybean colors you have chosen tell us something about your personality.**



## White or Black



- This individual is highly structured and organized.
- Surroundings are neat.
- If given an assignment such as a paper of bibliography; wants to know how many pages, exact requirements, and number of entries.
- Always wants to know the rules.
- Memorizes things well.
- Can't stand unorganized, sloppy people.
- Deliberates before making decisions.
- Sometimes appears to others to be aloof or standoffish. This is often a perception, not reality.



## Green

- Loves recognition.
- These people are seen as leaders, usually in highly visible positions.
- They are respecters of authority and tradition.
- They are decisive, directive, and focused.
- They love white or black jellybean people to organize their projects for them - then they take all of the credit.



## Yellow

- Not usually outspoken.
- Always in a state of transition, whether they are 8 or 80.
- Usually smart, and innovative, often artistic.
- Sometimes confused in making decisions, not sure where they are supposed to be.
- Hard workers.
- Exciting to be with-will try anything as long as it's safe.
- Spiritual aspects are usually important to them.
- They look at things with perspective and respect other people's opinions.



## Blue

- Cheerful and good-natured.
- Have the ability to get along well with almost anyone.
- They are friendly and have a ready smile.
- Usually have a quick wit.
- Fluent, often eloquent and profound in speech.
- Do not like to be left alone.
- Enjoy life and inspire others to reach their highest potential.



## Red or Pink

- Those who choose red are courageous and their energy seems boundless.
- Smile much of the time.
- If they see someone not smiling, they will ask what the problem is.
- Genuinely care about people and become involved in other's problems.
- Highly influenced by others, share their sadness or grief.
- Makes their decisions with feelings, acts on the impulse of the heart, spends a great deal of time on the phone, usually listening to others.
- Quality communicators.
- Sensitive, enthusiastic friends and lovers.



## Violet

- Flirty and passionate.
- Highly creative, highly excitable.
- Have new ideas and are visionaries.
- Short attention spans-can't stay in one place for very long.
- Disorganized, often choosing to close doors rather than deal with the organization.
- Procrastinators who thrive on chaos, enjoy the challenges of different problems.
- Have a problem dealing with highly structured time.
- Questioning-when given an assignment, asks why it must be done a certain way, want to do it differently.
- Set high standards for themselves and those who work for them – hard to work for.

Ask for a show of hands of those who think the color description of the jellybean they chose is valid for them, as they perceive themselves. This is statistically 70% valid (about 3/4 of the participants should raise their hands).

## Emphasize the following:

**No one is just “one color,” but one color is usually dominant. All of us have some of the various traits associated with other colors. This is important to realize when dealing with others. We should be able to empathize with those who see things differently and deal with problems differently than we do.**