

# Count Off

## Intro:

*"You're going to be faced with some new challenges in middle school and I want you to know you're not alone. Let's meet this first challenge together. It's pretty simple, we are going to count from 1-20, but we are going to do it in a different way to make it a little more challenging."*



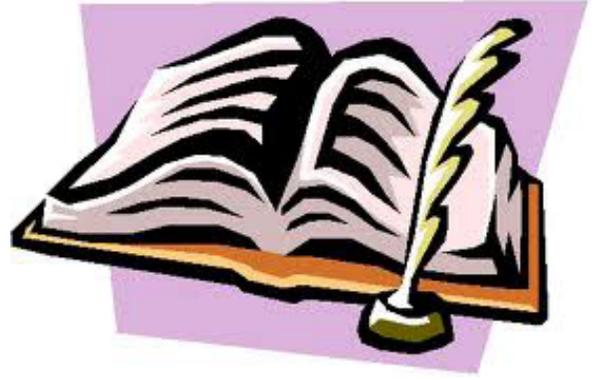
## Set Up & Rules

1. The numbers must be said in consecutive order 1-20 by all different people of the group.
2. The group cannot discuss strategy or point at people to indicate who goes next.
3. While the numbers must be said in consecutive order, the group cannot say them in an organized pattern - such as going around the circle.
4. Each person in the group must say at least one number and each person can say no more than three numbers.
5. If two people say the same number at the same time, the group starts over.

# Lifestory

## Intro:

*"One thing that makes middle school fun is the opportunity to get to know a lot of people, so I think we should get to know each other a little better"*



## Set Up & Rules

1. Give each student a piece of paper and a pencil.
2. Have students fold the paper into six sections and number each section.
3. Have students turn outward from circle.
4. Have students draw or write in the sections based on the following questions that you ask. Give them about one minute for each response.
  1. Draw a picture of your favorite toy as a little kid.
  2. If you could go to a concert, who would you go see and who would you take with you.
  3. Draw something that reminds you of a special memory.
  4. Write the name of an adult (other than your parents) whom you really respect.
  5. Draw or write something you would like to try that you haven't done yet.
  6. Write the name of a job you would like to have in the future.
5. After the sixth question, go back and review what each one was so they know what should have been drawn or written in the area.
6. Assign each person a partner and have each share their Lifestory for one minute.
7. After those two minutes are finished, have them select a new partner to share with for one minute each.
8. After they have shared with the second partner, have everyone return together into a circle.
9. Ask each person to share any one item from their Lifestory.

# Questions List

## Intro:

*"There are two ways to get to know people, one way is by listening to their story, which we just did, and the second is by asking questions, which we are going to do now."*



## Set Up & Rules

1. The students should be paired up for the first three questions. Place three in a group if there are an odd number of students in the class.
2. As leader select three questions from the list below - read them out loud to the students - and then have them share with each other the answers.
3. Have students regroup into new pairs - and then select three new questions.
4. Continue this process as long as you wish.

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1. What three wishes would you wish from a magic genie? (you can't ask for more wishes)
  2. What is your favorite subject? Why?
  3. If you could travel anywhere, where would it be?
  4. What do you do in your spare time?
  5. What is the best thing someone has ever done for you?
  6. What really makes a positive difference in your life?
  7. If you could be an animal, which one would you be and why?
  8. What do you wish you had that you don't have now?
  9. What does your family do that you like?
  10. Would you rather get sucked up by a tornado or swallowed by a blue whale? Why?
  11. What talent would you really like to have?
  12. Who do you think is the most successful person alive today and why?
  13. What is your pet peeve? Why does that bother you?
  14. What is your all-time favorite movie and why?
  15. If you had to, would you give up your cell phone or television?
  16. What is the best vacation you have ever been on?
  17. If you could be any age, what would it be and why?
  18. What would be the perfect day for you and why?
  19. Tell us one thing you liked about elementary school.
  20. Would you rather be on Survivor or American Idol?
  21. If you could be a car, what would you be and why?
  22. If you had two tickets to go around the world for one year, who would you take and why?
  23. What teacher has encouraged you and how?
  24. What has been the most important invention in the last 100 years? Why?
  25. What qualities do you look for in a friend?
  26. What is something that you want to accomplish in middle school?
  27. What's your favorite song and why?
  28. If you had to live in a different country, what would it be and why?
  29. Where do you go when you need to have some time to think?
  30. If there is anything in your life you could change, what would it be?
  31. What qualities are in a good teacher?
  32. Who has influenced you the most in the past year and why?
  33. What's something you've done for somebody?
  34. If you could meet anyone, living or dead, who would it be and why?
  35. If you could change your name, what would you like it to be?
  36. What TV character is most like you and why?
  37. What is your favorite professional sports team?