

Toss - A - Name Game

Purpose: To provide an opportunity for group members to learn each others names in a fun and nonthreatening manner.

Materials Needed: Five to six different grabable items such as Koosh balls, tennis balls, balled up socks, rubber chickens, stuffed animals, etc.

Description: Find an area to use that will allow your entire group to stand in a circle, at least eight to ten feet away from each other. The first step is to go around the group slowly and have each person say their first name so that the rest of the group can hear it. The second step is to explain that you are going to start the game by calling out a persons name and then gently tossing the object to that person. Once that person receives the object. They will call out another persons name and gently toss it to them.

The action continues until everyone has received the object once. It is usually very helpful to have everyone hold one hand up until they have received the object to help keep track of who is remaining.

Continue the rotation again using the same exact ordered sequence as was used in the very first rotation. After the object has made a few revolutions and people are becoming familiar with a few names. Challenge the group to speed up the activity to see how quickly they can get around the circle. At any point, suddenly ask the group to reverse the sequence to see if the group members can remember who threw the object to them. Once this has been completed. Ask for any volunteers who can go around and name everyone in the group.



Advisory Corners

Purpose: To get the group moving and to find out something about each other.

Materials Needed: Four corners!

Description: Designate four corners in the classroom 1-4. Explain to students you are going to read four statements, then ask them to move to the corner of the room that is closest to the student's preference. (Note: Halfway between two corners is acceptable - but let them discover this option on their own.) Added twist: Tell each student to focus on another student who they don't know. After going through the list, find out how many things people have in common with each other. Make up your own items, too.....these are only examples.

Round 1:

- Corner 1: Those who have never been to the state fair
- Corner 2: Those who have been to the state fair more than 3 times
- Corner 3: Those who have been to the state fair only one time
- Corner 4: Those who have been to the state fair 2 times

Round 2:

- Corner 1: Those whose favorite pet is a dog
- Corner 2: Those whose favorite pet is a cat
- Corner 3: Those whose favorite pet is a reptile (snake, etc.)
- Corner 4: Those whose favorite pet is at their neighbor's house (they don't like pets!)

Round 3:

- Corner 1: Those whose favorite fun thing to do is to go to a movie
- Corner 2: Those whose favorite fun thing to do is go shopping
- Corner 3: Those whose favorite fun thing to do is to be outdoors - warm or cold weather!
- Corner 4: Those whose favorite fun thing to do is to stay home and watch TV or play video games

Round 4:

- Corner 1: Those who like football
- Corner 2: Those who like hockey
- Corner 3: Those who like any other sport
- Corner 4: Those who don't care about sports