

Getting to Know You Activity

Introduction

What is it?

This activity is an icebreaker to facilitate connections between people in a group. It can be used in a classroom or work setting, with groups of about four to ten people, and minimal supplies.

Why use it?

This activity is meant to facilitate conversation about connection. This encourages participants to have more meaningful discussions with group members. In order to maximize self expression, encourage participants to be creative in their ideas and drawings.



What you need:



20-30 minutes

- Attached instructions
- 5 or more people
- 1 large sheet of flip chart paper or similar large sheet of paper
- Markers
- Participants should not use physical attributes such as hair color, weight etc.

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Instructions

Step 1: Provide supplies

Provide each group a large sheet of flip chart paper and markers.

Step 2: Draw a large flower

Instruct the group to draw a large flower with a center and an equal number of petals to the number of participants in their group.

Step 3: Find similarities

Next, encourage discussion with their group to help them find their similarities. They should fill in the center of the flower with something they all have in common.

Step 4: Each member fill out their petal

Each member should then fill in his or her petal with something about them that is unique - unlike any other member in their group.

Step 5: Share out and discuss

Finally, ask the small groups to share their flower with everyone. They should discuss each other's similarities and differences, and any challenges they faced during their activity. Highlight the importance of talking with others and the value in finding both similarities and differences with one another.

Source: West Virginia University - Dept of Social Justice | <http://socialjustice.ext.wvu.edu>