

Quick & Easy Icebreakers and Transitions

The Wind Blows For...

Make a circle with someone in the middle.

The person in the middle calls out a category; ie: "The wind blows for everyone who has a dog." If you have a dog, you must find a new place in the circle

The person in the middle also finds an open spot in the circle.

The person remaining in the circle at the end of the round moves to the center and calls out the next category; "The wind blows for everyone that likes ice cream.", etc.

(Variations include, All My Friends..." in which the person in the middle makes a statement such as, "All my friends like baseball.")

Helpful tip: Place markers on the floor to designate the spots in the circle where someone may stand. Pieces of tape may be used as indicators. Chairs may also be placed in a circle, with the added challenge that the players must find a new seat.

Spider Web

Participants form a circle, facing inward.

Players reach out with one hand and take the hand of another player somewhere in the circle.

Players reach out with their other hand and take the hand of a different player located in the circle.

Each player now holding the hand of two other players.

The group must communicate and work together to untangle the web, without letting go of the hands.

Two Truths and a Lie

Each person has to tell two truths about themselves and one lie. The other players have to guess which statement is the lie.

High Five Creation

Working with a partner or a small group, players cooperate to create a 4, or more, step High Five / Handshake combination.

Teams receive a specific amount of time to practice their High Five / Handshake.

Teams present their creation to the rest of the group.

Mimicry

Players select a partner – preferably someone they do not know.

The activity leader provides a statement or topic to talk about.

One player speaks on the topic while their partner mimics everything being said, along with intonations, gestures, and facial expressions.

After 30-seconds, the activity leader calls “Switch!”; at which point the players switch positions with the first speaker now mimicking the words and actions of the other player.

Discussion: Why is it important to listen to what another person in the conversation is saying? What about this activity made listening easier? What made it difficult?

Data Processing

The group is in a straight line and must organize themselves (without talking) by their birthdate (month and year).

After a few minutes, check with the group to see how they did.

This activity is good for breaking up, reorganizing, and focusing groups.