

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Use at least one of the following activities in your first meeting to help get to know each other. You may decide to use others in subsequent meetings to continue getting to know each other a little better.

Two Truths and a Lie

It's great when in small groups we practice lying to each other! No, of course, not, but this is a way to get to know each other a little more, whether the group is brand new, or has been together for years! Go around the circle and have each person share three things about their self, one of them being a lie. See if they can deceive the rest of the group away from that which is false about them. The fun comes when all three are completely absurd facts! You can learn even more about each other by allowing the group to ask questions regarding the three statements for 30 seconds before making their choice.

I've Never...

The object of the game is to help people get to know one another better. As in all great games, the winner is determined by eliminating everyone! To play, have everyone in a circle holding up ten fingers (or five depending on time). Start at random and work around the room by having each person share something they have never done, i.e. "I have never lived in another state." Whoever HAS lived in another state has to put one finger down. The game is played until everyone is eliminated but one. Several rounds can be played with no repeats allowed.

Slogan

People introduce themselves by using a slogan, popular saying, line from a song, or other familiar phrase that describes them, then explain how it relates.

Hero

People introduce themselves briefly then identify a hero they look up to and explain why.

Adjective Name Game

The group is formed in a circle, and each group member is required to think of an adjective that describes him/her AND rhymes with the individual's first name. Each group member will amplify their new creative name, and the rest of the group will repeat that name and all the names of the previous people.

Have each person describe him/herself by using the first letter of his/her name. For example: My name is Steve and I like Spaghetti, my favorite candy is Sugarbabies and my favorite animal is a Snake

Who's it?

Who's it? Each student writes down on a scrap of paper a little-known fact about him or herself (the more unusual, the better). These are then read and everyone tries to guess who it is

I'VE DONE SOMETHING YOU HAVEN'T DONE.

Have each person introduce themselves and then state something they have done that they think no one else in the group has done. If someone else has also done it, the student must state something else until he/she finds something that no one else has done.

Catalogue Name Game

Say your name and what object in a Sears/JC Penney catalog that you are most like and describe why. (i.e. My name is Jeni and I am most like a pair of work boots because I like to be comfortable and don't really care about whether others like the fashion statement I make with them).

Toilet Paper Game-

Take a roll of toilet paper and explain to the group that this is the only toilet paper for the whole week and for them to take as much as they will need. Once everyone has taken some, tell them that the number of little square sheets they have is the number of interesting facts they have to tell the group. You can use other things like gummy bears etc. instead of toilet paper.

Story Boxes - Your Life Story

1. Take an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper and fold it long ways.

2. Draw 3 lines across to form 6 boxes

3. Number each box #1-6 in any order

4. Fill the boxes in accordingly

Box 1 - Draw your favorite childhood toy

Box 2 - Write the name of a concert you would like to attend. Also write down the one person you would like to take to the concert.

Box 3 - Draw your favorite childhood memory.

Box 4 - Write the names of any two teachers you are glad you had.

Box 5 - Draw a picture of yourself at work someday.

Box 6 - Write down something unique about you.

5. Share your story with the group.

Cards of Knowledge

You will need a deck of playing cards with all the face cards and aces removed. May want to remove some of the higher numbers as well if time is limited. Each student draws a card and that is the number of facts about themselves they must share with the group.

Complete the Sentence. Make this fun and on the light side, not too serious. These can be put on a handout or on a wall poster or just answered in the group.

Examples:

If I could throw caution to the winds and really risk, I would.

The comic character I would like to be like is.

The most important decision of my life was/is.

As a child, my favorite game was.

My favorite movie of all times is.

What makes me laugh is.

Today, I like to play by.

I cry when