



Magic Box

Learn each other's names while telling a fun story as a group

TIME

10 minutes



MATERIALS

Small box

TEAM STAGE

Forming

SUMMARY

This activity helps groups to learn each other's names while telling a fun story together.



SET UP

- Choose a small, empty box for the group to pass around during this activity.
- Have all participants form a circle.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Pass the box around the circle to each participant.
- When a participant receives the box, they will say their name and something that is in their Magic Box. Encourage them to be creative but appropriate with what is in their box.
- Whatever is in someone's Magic Box must relate to whatever was in the box of the person before them. For example: *The first person could say, "Hi, my name is Kiley and in my Magic Box I have a unicorn" and then pass the object to the second person, who could say, "Hi, my name is Nathan and in my Magic Box I have the rainbow that the unicorn takes to work."*
- Continue passing the box around the circle and sharing until everyone has had a chance to speak.

VARIATIONS

- Have the group tell a complete story together. Each person gets to contribute one full sentence to the story. It must have a main character and a beginning, middle and end. For an activity similar to this variation, see [Secondhand Stories](#).
-  **Small Group:** To facilitate this activity for a small group, have each participant say what each person before them had in their Magic Box before saying what they have in their Magic Box. This will turn the activity into a fun memory game.
-  **Online:** To facilitate this activity virtually, post an order of names in the chat and have participants share what's in their Magic Box in that order. Instead of passing around an actual box, have participants hold an imaginary box when they're speaking. [\[click here for video\]](#)
- For a similar activity, see [Going on a Trip](#).

DEBRIEF QUESTIONS *(on next page)*



DEBRIEF QUESTIONS

- What:
 - What was challenging about this activity?
 - How did this activity encourage you to think creatively?
 - So What:
 - Why is it important to be able to connect your ideas to other people's ideas?
 - How does having everyone contribute an idea help a group?
 - Now What:
 - How can you implement ideas that complement and don't counteract what has already been established by the group?
 - What can you do to ensure that everyone's voice is being heard when you work with this group?
- 📌 **Facilitator Note:** These questions can be used to guide your debrief, however, pick the questions that best match your group's experience and add or change questions as needed. As a general note, getting to know you activities are used for the purpose of developing connections within the group. Typically you do not have to debrief a getting to know you activity, however, when done intentionally, inserting a mini debrief can help set up a lesson or tie your entire experience together in a more seamless fashion.