



Fortunately, Unfortunately

Tell a silly story together as a group

TIME

10 minutes



MATERIALS

None

TEAM STAGE

Forming

SUMMARY

In this word game, participants create a silly story comprised of good and bad news.

SET UP

- Have all participants stand up and form a large circle.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Go around the circle and have each participant take a turn adding a line to create a story.
- The first person will start the story with a sentence (*Once upon a time there were three little pigs...*).
- The second person will then continue the story by telling the group something fortunate that happens (*Fortunately for the pigs, they had each other to rely on...*).
- The third person will then add on to the story by telling the group something unfortunate that happens (*Unfortunately for the pigs, there was a hungry wolf who wanted to eat them...*).
- The fourth person will then add another fortunate event (*Fortunately, the pigs had a strong house...*).
- The game continues around the circle with each person contributing to the story and alternating between “fortunate” and “unfortunate” news until you get to the last person.

VARIATIONS

- For an added twist, give each participant a number and challenge them to use that many words in their sentence.



Large Group: To facilitate this activity for a large group, split the group in half (or thirds, etc.) and have the smaller groups sit in a circle. Each small group will create their own story.



Additional Small Group Option: To facilitate this activity for a small group, go around the circle more than once and continue adding to the story.



High Risk: To facilitate a high risk version this activity, pick a topic or idea (such as replacing a traditional event with a new or reimagined event) and have participants alternate sharing positive and negative perspectives (*Fortunately we can engage a new population of participants with the new event or unfortunately participants who liked the old event may be mad at us*).



Online: To facilitate this activity virtually, use the chat to post a list of names so that participants know what order to add to the story. [\[click here for video\]](#)



Asynchronous: Create a document and have each person’s name written in as if it was a movie script, with the prompts, Fortunately and Unfortunately embedded to start each person’s line.



Assign participants a timeframe of when they need to add their line so that the story can still be told sequentially.