



Brains Together

LESSON

LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT OUTCOME

Participants will engage in an idea creation process to share some of their favorite things and open their mind to new ideas.

MATERIALS

Poster paper, writing utensils

AGE ADJUSTMENTS

Change brainstorming topics to be more appropriate and relevant for your group.

Lesson Plan

Introducing the Lesson

- Lead a discussion on how preferences can change over time.
 - Ask if anyone has an example of something they like now that they didn't before.
- Explain that one way to expand your interests is by learning what other people like.

Experiencing the Lesson

- Break everyone into small groups of five or less and make sure each participant has a writing utensil.
- Give each group a piece of poster paper with a pre-written brainstorming topic at the top. For example: *"Books to read or shows/movies to watch"*, *"Food that should be in a school cafeteria"*, *"Places I'd like to visit"*, or *"Favorite things to do at school"*.
- Give groups three minutes to answer their prompt.
- Once time is up, have each group rotate to a new poster.
- Give participants five minutes at their new poster. During this time they should write comments/questions about what is already on the poster and add in new ideas.
- Continue rotating until participants have had a chance to go to each poster or time runs out.



Is this a silent activity?

"It can be! Take into consideration what your goal is for the activity and decide what is most appropriate."



Closing the Lesson

- Give participants five minutes to freely walk around and read all of the ideas and comments on the posters.

After the Lesson

- Encourage participants to engage in conversation with their peers about ideas that were written about in this activity.

To keep comment threads going, feel free to walk around and add comments to the posters.



Further Exploration

- Give each participant a Future Favorites worksheet.
- Have participants pick four new things that they want to explore or try out and write it down on their worksheet.
 - You can utilize your posters from the original activity to provide participants with ideas.
- Encourage participants to keep their worksheet to track their progress in trying new things.



Get Creative

- Create a group collage for each of the categories.
 - Have each participant print, find, or create pictures to represent the items on the posters.
 - In small groups, have the participants design a collage by pasting all of the pictures for each category onto a piece of paper or poster paper.

Online

- To facilitate this lesson online, create a shared document with a page for each category using platforms like Google Jamboards, Google Slides, or Google Docs.
- Have participants start on one page, then rotate to the next page after each round.
- Participants should add new ideas to each page as well as add comments or questions using a "comment" or "note" feature on the shared document (or by adding the comment or question below the original idea).





Future Favorites

Write down a new idea in each box that you want to explore or try out!

After you try it...*congratulations!*

Check the box and fill in the remaining answers to the prompts.

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>Idea:</p> <p>Why I want to try this:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I TRIED IT!</p> <p>What I enjoyed about trying this idea:</p> | <p>Idea:</p> <p>Why I want to try this:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I TRIED IT!</p> <p>What I enjoyed about trying this idea:</p> |
| <p>Idea:</p> <p>Why I want to try this:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I TRIED IT!</p> <p>What I enjoyed about trying this idea:</p> | <p>Idea:</p> <p>Why I want to try this:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I TRIED IT!</p> <p>What I enjoyed about trying this idea:</p> |

Worksheet for: Brains Together