



Dyads

Connect with different partners using several rounds of questions

TIME
20-30 minutes



MATERIALS
None

TEAM STAGE
Any Stage

SUMMARY

A structured way for participants to connect with different partners and group members using various getting-to-know-you questions.

SET UP

- Prepare a list of low risk questions to use during this activity that are easy for anyone to answer and allow participants to provide a surface level answer, such as:
 - *If you could close your eyes and then open them and be anywhere else, where would you be?*
 - *If you had to rename your hometown, what would you call it?*
 - *Tell your life story in 60 seconds.*
 - *What's one thing you like to do in your spare time?*

INSTRUCTIONS

- Break the group up into pairs (or groups of three if necessary). You can do this any way you want, but if you are trying to mix up your group, here are some examples:
 - *Find a partner born in the same month as you.*
 - *Find a partner who likes the same TV show as you.*
- Give each person a "new name". Avoid using "Person A" / "Person B" or "Person 1" / "Person 2" as we don't want to suggest that one person is more important than another. Instead, choose a noun pair to designate participants. For example: *One person can be "peanut butter" another person can be "jelly".*
- As the facilitator, designate which person will start by calling the new name. For example: *"Peanut butter" goes first.*
- Ask a question and give the pair a minute or two to answer it. After half of the time has passed, tell the pairs to switch and allow the other person to answer the same question.
- After a question or two, have the pairs switch so that they get to know different people. The easiest way is to have one designated name stay put, like "peanut butters", and all "jellies" would leave to find a new "peanut butter" to talk to.
- Ask a new question for the participants to discuss with their new partners.
- Continue switching partners and asking questions for several rounds.



VARIATIONS

-  **High Risk:** To facilitate a higher risk version of this activity you can ask questions that require group members to provide an answer that is more personal, such as:
 - *If you could make someone you know live one moment from your life, who would you select and what moment?*
 - *If you could “unknow” something that you know now, what would it be?*
 - *What is one of your greatest strengths and greatest weaknesses?*

-  **Online:** To facilitate this activity virtually, use breakout rooms to allow participants to speak to each other one-on-one. Close the breakout rooms between questions to ask the next question and randomize breakout rooms so that the participants have a new partner each time. Or, choose to keep the breakout rooms open for longer and have participants discuss several questions with the same partner by broadcasting a new question to the breakout rooms every few minutes. [[click here for video](#)]

DEBRIEF QUESTIONS

- What:
 - What did you enjoy about this activity?
 - What do you think are the benefits of this activity?
- So What:
 - How do these types of questions help your group?
 - What are the benefits of getting to talk to multiple different people in this activity?
- Now What:
 - What can you do to continue some of the conversations that were started in this activity?
 - What other questions would you like to discuss with the members of 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.