

ACTIVITY**INTERVIEW*****TYPE OF ACTIVITY*****BEGINNING – CD 1**

- Learning Names
- Introductions
- Getting Acquainted

SUSTAINING – CD 2

- Warm Up/Energizing
- Relaxing/Reducing Stress
- Problem Solving/Creativity
- Learning Check/Reconnecting

ESTABLISHING – CD 1

- Group/Team Building
- Goals/Expectations
- Communication

TERMINATING – CD 2

- Action Planning
- Wrap-Up/Ending

PURPOSE

- To introduce participants to each other without the pressure of having to talk about themselves in front of a new group.

TARGET GROUP

■ Any

■ Adult

■ Youth

Comments

RESULTS

- Participants will know some basic information about each other and the process of building a working group will have begun.

BEST TIME TO USE IN PROGRAM

- Start Up ■ Early ■ Middle ■ Late ■ End ■ Anytime

Comments

DURATION 5 - 10 minutes plus 30 – 40 seconds per person

GROUP SIZE 10 – 35; divided into pairs

LOCATION

- Indoors ■ Outdoors ■ Indoors or Outdoors

Comments

LEVEL OF ACTION

- Quiet ■ Slightly Active ■ Active ■ Very Active

Comments

DIFFICULTY OF SET UP

- Easy ■ Moderate ■ Difficult

MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

- None

SET UP & PREPARATION

- None

DIRECTIONS (including rules & conditions)

1. *"I've told you a little about who I am. Now I'd like to take time for each of us to learn something about everyone."*
2. *"Sometimes it can be a little awkward to get up in front of a new group and talk about yourself so this activity will solve that problem."*
3. *"I'll give you the directions and then you can stand up and begin."*
4. *"The first step will be to walk around and see how many people you can talk to in 151 seconds. What you need to do with each person you talk to is exchange first names and then quickly see if you can find one thing that you don't have in common, one difference. For instance, one of you might like cats and the other doesn't; or one of you grew up in the city and the other grew up in the country; or one has only brothers and the other only sisters. When you have done that, move on to another person. The only rule is that your difference can't be an obvious physical characteristic such as one of you is a man and one a woman, or one wears glasses and one doesn't, etc."*
5. *"When I call time, the person you are with will be your partner for the rest of the activity. Any questions? O.K., begin."*
6. *"Time! The person you are with right now is your partner. Go back to your chairs, sit together and then I'll give you the next directions."*
7. *"I would like you to take a total of four minutes to interview each other and collect some information that you can use to introduce your partner to the total group. You'll each have up to but no more than thirty seconds to do that when the time comes."*
8. *"Time is up. Turn your chairs back to the total group."*
9. *"We'll just go around the room. Let's begin here. Introduce your partner, and then your partner will introduce you. Start with your partner's first name and remember you only have thirty seconds."*

NOTES & SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Room/Location (RL)
- Safety (S)
- Gender Issues (GI)
- Cultural Differences (CD)
- Group Dynamics (GD)
- Other (O)

RL – Space for participants to walk around and talk to each other in addition to the meeting area with chairs where they can sit together with one partner.

O – **Option: When you want to use less time**, simplify and shorten the activity by eliminating the first part. Begin by having people quickly choose a person they don't know and then interview each other. The thirty-second introduction of each other to the total group remains the same.

OBSERVATION & DISCUSSION

- Intended as a simple introduction exercise so none is usually required.

JOB & LIFE LINKS

- Importance of giving time and attention in new groups for participant introductions.
- Sensitivity to the fact that for some people it can be very uncomfortable to talk about themselves in front of a new group.
- Benefits of using something other than usual introduction methods which tend to focus primarily on titles and positions and may bias people's perceptions of each other and negatively effect how the group develops.