



Games to Mix It Up!!

Let Me Introduce You

Formation: Scattered

Equipment: None

Participants: 10+

Have the group move anywhere in the space greeting one another and shaking hands. Call out for them to stop and face a partner. After you are sure everyone has a partner ask them to introduce themselves to each other and then tell their partner their FULL name. This is called partner #1.

Mix and mingle again. Call out for them to find a new partner. Have them introduce themselves to this partner and then share with this partner a nickname that they were called when they were younger. This is partner #2. NOW each person is to find their partner #1 elsewhere in the room and POINT to partner #1 while “introducing” this first partner to the second partner. For example, “Gina, the girl over there is Beth and her full name is Beth Bannerman Gunn”.

Mix and mingle one more time. Call out for them to find a new partner. Have them introduce themselves to this partner and then share with this partner if you have ever wished you had a different name and if so, what is that name? This is partner #3. NOW each person is to find their partner #1 elsewhere in the room and POINT to partner #1 while “introducing” this first partner to the third partner. And THEN point to partner #2 and introduce this partner to the third partner.

Look Up, Look Down

Formation: Circle

Equipment: None

Participants: 8+

Have your group form one large circle. Begin by telling everyone to “Look Down” at his or her own shoes. Now tell them to “Look Up” at anyone in the circle. The words “Look Down” begin each round of the game. While they are looking down, they find another pair of shoes and that is the person they will look at when you say “Look Up”. When ANY two people in the circle make eye contact with each other they quickly trade places in the circle. Keep repeating “Look Down, Look Up” – give people just a few seconds to trade places before continuing.

Leader’s Hints: There are numerous variations to this game. For example, after teaching the game make multiple circles of about 8-12 people in each circle. When two people make eye contact they leave their circle and go find any other circle to join (they do not have to move together). You can add a verbal element to the game that when two people make eye contact that they let out a short scream (AHHH!) and then trade places or move to another circle. This game can be played seated in a circle and used to separate a group of people who might be disrupting an activity. You as the leader get the chance to separate the two or three people without ever having to “call them down” in front of others and they will never know that you were intentionally separating them.