

Inspire! Ice Breakers & Openers



Activity: **Nickname Nugget**

Overview

This classic game uses alliterations to help people learn and remember the names of others in their group. Each player shares his or her name along with a funny alliteration. As you move around the group, the remaining members attempt to repeat the names and alliterations of the people who have already contributed. You'll be surprised at how many people will remember everyone's name.

Props

- None.

Instructions and Key Points

- Form a circle with the group so that everyone can see each other.
- Ask players to think of an alliteration for his or her name. For example: Music Mike, Rhubarb Rose, or Nevada Nick. Give them a minute or two to create inventive or memorable alliterations.
- Start with one person and go around the circle, letting each person share their "nickname."
- After everyone has introduced himself or herself, explain that the group will next attempt to repeat the name and alliteration of each team member in the circle.
- Ask for a volunteer to start by introducing him or herself. Then, the person immediately to his or her left introduces him or herself and the person who went before.
- Each time a player shares, he or she also introduces the people who previously shared in the circle.
- Individuals are welcome to help others recall their nicknames.
- Remember that the last person has the most challenging task because he or she has to recall all the names and nicknames. Put yourself in that position or ask for an extra brave volunteer who wants to try and introduce the entire group.

Variations

Instead of alliterations, try rhyming animals and/or vegetables. Or, ask players to connect a motion with something he or she likes to do. For example: "My name is Sarah and I like to swim." As Sarah introduces herself, she makes swimming motions with her arms.