

INCORPORATIONS: A quick ice breaker and energizer.

Good for larger groups that don't yet know each other very well. (Great for a class of students during the first week of school!) Allow 5-10 minutes.

Facilitator should ask all the participants to stand and move to an open space. "You will have an opportunity to meet a number of people in the room over the next few minutes. Look to meet as many new people as you can. You will find a new partner frequently, so don't get too comfortable! You will find a new partner based on my directions. Each time you switch partners, look your new partner in the eye, shake hands, and share your name. Then quickly discuss what I have directed you to discuss. When I give the signal (flicker lights, raise hand, clap three times, ring chimes) please FREEZE! This is important! Even if you are unfinished with the exchange or in the middle of a sentence, you must be instantaneously silent and motionless. You will then be ready for the next directions."

Allow about 30 seconds to a minute for each exchange before asking participants to FREEZE! (you can adjust for longer/shorter topics as you go).

- Raise either a pinky or a thumb. Find someone you don't know who is doing the same, and after introducing yourself, tell him/her about your favorite movie.
- Raise fingers indicating the number of siblings you have. Find someone you don't know with the same number (or near for the big families!), and after introducing yourself, tell him/her about a time as a child you got into trouble.
- Are you wearing a belt today or not? Find someone you don't know who is the same. After introducing yourself, tell him/her about a fashion you would never consider wearing.
- Would you prefer to eat at a Chinese restaurant or a Mexican restaurant? Tell your new partner about something you know how to cook well.
- What color shirt are you wearing? Find a new partner with a similar color and tell him/her about a famous person (living or dead) that you would like to meet.
- Check out your footwear. Find a new partner wearing something similar, and tell him/her about why you decided to become a teacher.
- What would be better, a beach vacation or a ski vacation? Find someone new who agrees, and tell him/her about your most recent or most enjoyable vacation.
- Are you wearing a watch or are you watchless? Find someone new who is the same, and tell him/her how you like to spend your free time (hobby?).

All items can be adjusted for your particular group. In addition, all the directives for finding a new partner can be fudged a bit to help people partner up quickly. Groups of three are OK as needed, too!

After the participants sit down again, ask them to share with the larger group one interesting thing they learned about one person in the room that they did not know previously. (Ask 4 or 5 people to share).