

I Love my Neighbor Who...

OBJECTIVE Energizer or Teambuilder (will create fun and energy, but also can help build relationships)

MATERIALS Chairs in a circle (one less chair than the total number of people in group)

TIME 15-20 minutes

GROUPS OF 10-40 people

PROCEDURES

A. Introduction

Explain that this activity will help you get to know your group (or ‘neighbors’).

B. Activity

1. Full group needs to be seated in a circle with enough chairs for everyone minus one.
2. One person will be ‘it’ in the middle. They will name a characteristic or an attribute or some other thing about themselves (i.e. “I love my neighbor who... is under the age of 20.”). Then everyone seated who shares that characteristic (i.e. is under the age of 20) must get up and quickly find another chair. There will be someone left in the middle with no chair whose job is then to give the new statement so that the activity continues. The goal is to avoid getting stuck in the middle.

Note: The person who is ‘it’ must use a characteristic that applies to themselves also.

Coaching: Encourage participants to find things that are not just superficial (like clothes), but things that are more about personality, interests, etc.

C. Debrief

How was this activity for you?

What did you observe?

What did you learn about your groupmates?

How did it feel to be ‘it’?

Why is this a useful activity to do with a group?

D. Closing

Sometimes activities and special games help us learn more about each other. Maybe you know some things now that you didn’t know before about this group and you can seek those people out and follow-up on some of what you heard.