

Group Juggle

Activity type: Icebreaker/name game

Props: bean bags & other fun stuff

Min. group size: 8-10

Instructions:

Have the group “line up in a circle”

Encourage the group to listen carefully to names and to practice using each other’s names throughout the group. *Using people’s names demonstrates a basic respect for each other.*

Go Around the circle and have each participant say their first name.

Set up of game with group:

Facilitator will choose someone across the circle and call out his or her name and make eye contact with him or her and then toss the beanbag easily to them. The object is to have the person successfully catch the beanbag so easy underhanded tosses are the best. Remember whom you toss the beanbag to because you always throw to that same person.

To avoid anyone catching the beanbag twice while we are establishing the pattern ask everyone to hold up one hand until they have caught the beanbag at which time they can put their hand down. So, if you looking for someone to throw the beanbag to just look for someone with their hand up.

The person with the beanbag will then choose some one else in the circle that has not yet had the beanbag and repeat the process.

This process continues until everyone has had the beanbag once and the last person will toss the beanbag back to the facilitator, completing the pattern.

Once the pattern is complete toss the beanbag around through the pattern a couple of times to reinforce the pattern. After a couple of rounds add more beanbags into the mix. Thus the name *Group Juggle*. Continue until you have 6 to 10 beanbags going around depending on the group size.

*****It is fun to add other strange but harmless props to the mix toward the last like nerf balls, beanbags with tails, small dogs (stuffed) etc. and my favorite the ol’ rubber chicken!*

It will be very chaotic at this point so just go with it for three or four minutes – stop activity during an outbreak of laughter and celebrate the fun in chaos.