



Who Are You?

Belonging:

Feeling like you are part of a group while knowing you are special for who you are. An important part of fostering Belonging is learning about each other. This activity uses student interviews as a way to learn about each other.

Objective:

Students will be able to communicate with peers by asking questions, listening, and speaking.

Materials:

"All About Me" worksheet, pencil; podcast tools, iMovie, or TouchCast app (extended learning).

Steps:

- Have students fill out an "All About Me" worksheet. Then, collect them.
- Begin by asking students to talk about what it means to interview someone. Have students think of reasons why people interview others. Ask students to draw on their experiences. What interviews have they seen before? What made it interesting? Sometimes interviews are interesting because both the interviewer and interviewee are passionate about the topic. Sometimes interviews are interesting because the interviewer is learning something new and unique about the person being interviewed.
- Tell students that interviewers do their research and come prepared with written questions. They avoid questions that could be answered with a yes or a no. Many news reporters create open-ended questions that lead to more questions, depending on what the person says. Give examples and practice these kinds of questions.
- Pair students with a classmate they do not know well. Hand each student the "All About Me" worksheet about the student they are interviewing. Ask students to notice what they have in common with their partner and what is unique, special, or different. Have students mark on the paper. Instruct students to make a circle next to what they have in common with their partner and a star next to an answer that is different.
- Based on the worksheet, have students form two new open-ended questions: One question will be about something they noticed they have in common (circle), and one question will be about something that they noticed is different or unique (star).

- Have students get with their partner. Student A will start and ask his first question about something they have in common. Student B will respond. Student A should carefully listen to Student B. Student A can ask a follow-up question if something sparks their attention to keep the conversation going. Then, have the students switch roles.
- Next, have students take turns asking their question about something that is unique. Follow the same procedure.

Personal Reflection:

Ask students to reflect on what they liked most about this experience. What was most difficult?

Group Discussion:

Discuss: Even though we are all different, we have a lot in common. Each student's uniqueness creates a great class. Asking questions is a great way to learn about others.

- Why is it important to talk about things we have in common?
- How was this experience interesting to you? Was it easy to come up with a follow-up question? Why is it important to talk about things that make us different?
- Why was this interesting to you? Did you learn something new? What did you learn about your partner?

Extended Learning:

Students can research and watch popular interviews. What kinds of questions are asked? Another enrichment opportunity might be to record each student interview and create a podcast.

Create an iMovie by using the news reporter theme music and picture lay out or use the TouchCast app.

Use the "[Conducting an Interview Lesson Plan: Interview an Expert](#)" lesson plan.

All About Me Worksheet

Name:

Birthday:

Have you ever moved before?

Hobbies and activities:

Describe your family:

Do you have any pets?

What is your dream job?

What are you doing right now to help you achieve your dream? What you look for in a friend:

What was the last book you read?

What accomplishments are you proud of?

Who was your teacher last year?

What do you want to learn more about?

Favorite school project:

Favorite song:

Favorite school subject:

Favorite food:

Favorite animal:

Favorite movie:

Favorite season: