

Icebreakers from Langevin Learning Services

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Autograph Seekers

- Use this icebreaker with larger groups.
- Prior to the course, make a list of about 20 items relating to work and/or home life.
- You can adjust the number items for smaller or larger groups.
- Include space next to each item on the list for a name.
- You can also add space for other information like “job title”, “organization”, “department”, etc.
- Handout a copy of the list to each participant and have them find someone who can autograph one of the items.
- The goal is to meet as many people as possible by getting at least one autograph for every item.

Variation:

- Format the list as a large bingo card and set the rule for completion (e.g. a row, a “T” shape, an “X”, etc.)

Balloon Bash

- This icebreaker works best with a group of individuals who already know each other.
- Give each participant a balloon.
- Have participants write a fact about themselves on a small piece of paper and insert it into their balloon.
- The fact can be work related, offbeat/funny, or personal (e.g. hobby). Whatever best suits your audience and subject matter.
- Have participants blow up their balloon and throw it in the middle of the room.
- Pop the balloons one by one and have participants guess who wrote the fact.

Knit Pickers

- Take a ball of yarn.
- Hold onto one end of the yarn and toss the ball out to a participant.
- Have that person state their name, job title, and organization (modify to your audience and training needs) and then toss the ball to another person.
- By the end, everyone will be well connected!
- Relate the end result (a web, connection, link, etc.) into a teaching point or topic segue.

Art Gallery

- Use this icebreaker for small groups or for each small group sitting together as a team (e.g. 4-6 people).
- Give a magazine (or several magazine pages), tape, and scissors to each participant.
- Have participants create a collage that describes themselves using pictures and/or words of their choice.
- Have them create an art gallery by taping their artwork, including their signature, on flip chart paper posted around the room.
- Have participants tour the gallery and meet the other artists.

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Acroname

- Use this icebreaker for small groups or for each small group sitting together as a team (e.g. 4-6 people).
- Have participants write their first name vertically on a piece of flip chart paper.
- Then have them write a word that describes themselves that begins with each letter of their name.
- Have each participant share their name and words with the group.

Note: To shorten activity, have participants use their initials instead.

Wheel of Friends

- Use this icebreaker for very large groups.
- Form two large circles, one inside the other.
- Have the people in the inside circle face the people in the outside circle.
- Ask the circles to take one step in the opposite directions, allowing each individual to meet a new person as the circle moves.
- Keep the circles moving at a slow and steady pace.
- It's a great way to get many people to meet each without taking up too much time.

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