

Activities: Learn About Each Other

I Didn't Know!

Take some time to share something about yourself that the children probably don't know. Then ask each person to share something fun or interesting that would help their friends to know them better. Depending on the age of the children, you may need to give some ideas or direct the content of the discussion. If necessary, just ask questions of the group and see what everyone can find out about one another. Ask, "How does learning about other people help us?"

Suggestions:

- Who has traveled to another country?
- Who has a first or middle name that came from another family member?
- Who knows words from another language?
- Who has been up in a hot air balloon, or taken a ride on a train, or been to the top of a skyscraper?

Safe Passage

Challenge the class/group to work together and come up with a way for everyone to safely cross the room (or space you designate), without touching the floor. You may want to think about this before class and prepare the area by removing breakables if necessary. If needed, add items to the room such as pillows or a blanket that could be used.

Mixed age groups may enjoy the challenge of coming up with a path for younger children and a path for the older children to use. Offer suggestions if needed, but allow for the creative energy to flow in the moment.

Tips: Be aware of safety in your space and give some guidelines if indicated. "Islands" to land on can be made with pillows, paper, coats or books. Encourage cooperative solutions, such as holding hands with a classmate for balance or a student playing the role of safety guide.

Afterwards discuss for a few minutes what was learned about each other, and what each child learned about working together.