

The First Week of School

Team Building

Primary Activities

Who Is It?

1. The class sits in a circle on the floor or on the playground.
2. Have each student give his or her name. Repeat the names to clarify pronunciation if the student is hard to hear.
3. Now the memory game begins. The student on your left says, "I'm _____."
4. The next student says, "I'm _____ and this is (names the first student.)"
5. Each subsequent student names those who came before. Since you are last, you name everyone in the class.



Spider Web Questions

You will need a large ball of heavy twine for this activity.

1. The class sits in a circle on the floor or on the playground.
2. Ask the question, "What is your favorite _____?"
3. Name a student in the circle. Hold onto the free end of the twine. Roll it across the circle to that student.
4. The student catches the twine, answers the question, names another student, holds the twine, and rolls the ball to the second student.
5. The game continues until all students have answered the question.



Alphabet Lineup

1. Have students line up in alphabetical order.
 2. Start with A. Students with names beginning with A stand and arrange themselves in alphabetical order.
 3. Continue with each letter.
- Note: In the process of doing this lineup, you will have created a real graph of names starting with each letter. You may want to record the results.



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Intermediate Activity

Who Could It Be?

The classic icebreaker where participants mill around a room and find others who fit certain descriptions is a great way to get to know one another.

1. Reproduce the form on page 130 for each student. You may want to white out some of the facts and use ones specific to students in your class.
2. Establish ground rules for the activity.
 - Use six-inch voices. (Voices that can't be heard farther than six inches away.)
 - Practice good manners.
3. Students move around the room, exchange forms, and sign their names next to an appropriate description. Each student may sign another student's grid only once.
4. The object of the activity is to complete the grid.

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Who Could It Be?

brown eyes	has braces	wears glasses	likes fishing
is the oldest child	plays an instrument	can do a cartwheel	likes broccoli
has a dog	is the youngest child	has slept outside	can sew
wears sandals	has five pockets	has a natural curly hair	can blow a bubble
likes hats	rides a bike	reads a book last night	can swim
loves ice cream	speaks Spanish	likes pickles	has a dimple



Helpful Hint

Several students might make a master grid by filling in every possible correct answer. This master grid could become the center of a bulletin board. Post student biographies and photos around the grid.

Who Could It Be?

<p>brown eyes</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>has braces</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>wears glasses</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>likes fishing</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>is the oldest child</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>plays an instrument</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>can do a cartwheel</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>likes broccoli</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>has a dog</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>is the youngest child</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>has slept outside</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>can sew</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>wears sandals</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>has five pockets</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>has naturally curly hair</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>can blow a bubble</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>likes hats</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>rides a bike</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>read a book</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>can swim</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>loves ice cream</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>speaks Spanish</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>likes pickles</p> <p>_____</p>	<p>has a dimple</p> <p>_____</p>