

Dynamic, Active Learning Activities for Classrooms
Dedra Stafford

Name of Activity: Tell Me More

Tagline description of what the activity looks like:

Success in the classroom starts with relationships. This is a fun way to get students sharing and learning things about each other to create an environment that encourages acceptance. This is a perfect activity to do during the first weeks of school to get to know everyone.

Objective:

To help students learn things about their fellow classmates. Explain to students that the more each of us knows about the other, the better team we will become.

Materials Needed:

10 Different buckets of inexpensive items (enough for everyone)

Items can be anything here are some examples: Pebbles, mini-marshmallows, pennies, beans, seeds, paperclips, safety pins, pieces of cloth, little plastic animals, refrigerator letters, little plastic flowers, tickets

Chart with topics associated with items

Step-by-Step Procedure:

1. Everyone chooses 5 items and then takes a seat.
2. Teacher brings out a chart with items that match topics such as:
 - Pebble = something that happened to you over the summer
 - Marshmallow = A fun memory from last year
 - Ticket = your favorite subject in school
 - Paperclip= the person you tell everything to
 - Animal = the thing you like to do with your spare time
 - Cloth = if you could live anywhere in the world
 - Seed= what you want to do with your life
 - Pennies=the person you value most in the world
 - Letter= a word that starts with that letter that makes you happy
 - Bean= If you had one wish what would you wish for (no other wishes)
 - Safety pin= pet peeve
 - Flower= tell us one thing about you that we would never guess
3. Students then write down the 5 items they have, the question it poses, the answer to that question, and why they answered that way.
4. Students find a person they are sitting by and tell them their answers
5. Students find a person across the room to share with
6. Students find a person wearing the same color they are to share with
7. Students find a person of the opposite sex to share with
8. Students find a person they have never met or never had a class with to share
9. Last students write their name on their paper and then add anything else they want the teacher to know about them in the extra space and turn the paper in to the teacher.
10. Teacher then reads these papers to get to know the students in the class.

Option: This activity can also be done by choosing colored beads or colored candies instead of items.