

Team Builder/ Ice Breaker Activities

Classification Game

Time Required: 10-15 minutes

The classification game can be a quick icebreaker or a more complex activity. *For the purposes of this example, we will treat this activity as a quick icebreaker.* Before splitting the room into teams of four, explain the concept of “pigeon-holing someone,” which means classifying someone as something or stereotyping someone. It should be made clear that this type of classification is subjective and unhelpfully judgmental. Instruct the participants to introduce themselves to those in their team and quickly discuss some of their likes, dislikes, etc. After the introductions, reveal to the teams that it will be their job to discover how they should classify themselves (as a team), into two or three subgroups by using criteria that contains no negative, prejudicial, or discriminatory judgments. Examples of these subgroups can include night owls and morning people, pineapple pizza lovers and sushi lovers, etc. This activity encourages coworkers to get to know each other better and enables them to collectively consider the nature of all individuals within the team.

One Question

Time Required: 10-20 minutes

Leader gets to decide the situation the question will pertain to. Example situations include babysitting, leading the company, being married, etc. (This icebreaking activity can also get mixed up by issuing one situation for the entire group or allocating a different situation to each team member or pair to work on.) After pairing participants, the leader will pose this question: **If you could ask just one question to discover a person’s suitability for a particular job what would your question be?** If the topic was babysitting, each team member would have to come up with just one question whose answer would help them determine whether or not the person was suitable to babysit their child. Depending on the situation chosen, the activity can be very fun, but it can also demonstrate that crucial questions should be developed properly.