BIRTHDAY MONTH SLOGANS ICE BREAKER

Supplies:
- Mini-White Boards, Markers, Erasers

Activity Instructions:
• Participants divide by birthday month into 12 groups
  o Can do Incorporations to “incorporate by month you were born in”
  o Can do silent birthday line-up to get in a big circle by birthdays

• Please make a circle with your birthday group and introduce yourselves around the circle, sharing your name, the town/camp you’re from and the day of the month for your birthday
  o Maximum group size should be 7. If 8 or more, split into smaller groups
  o Minimum group size should be 2. Pair up singles so no one works alone

• Please send up a volunteer from each group to get a white board, marker & eraser and act as your group’s note taker

• Now, work together as a birthday month team and collaborate on a creative slogan sharing why your birthday month is the best month

• We will share these slogans aloud with the group, so creativity is encouraged

• Take about 3 – 5 minutes to create your month’s slogan

• Please write your final Birthday Month Slogan on your white board

• Have each group hold up their board and share their birthday month slogan with enthusiasm and pride! (work through calendar from January – December)
Debrief:

• Why did we do this activity? (fun, meet people, ice breaker, etc.)
• In this activity, we didn’t just learn names and meet people, we met people who have something very special in common with us - - What? (we ALL share the same birthday month / that’s a special connection)
• Did anyone find someone in their month whose birthday was actually on the same day as yours? (did you feel an even stronger connection with that person? / same birthday as me - -wow!)
• Was it easy to think of your slogan? (some months could be easier than others / certain holidays or times of the year)
• If your month wasn’t a particularly easy one, did you need to get creative, maybe think outside the box a bit?
• Did anyone in your group take the lead at any point?
• Did others . . .
  - step-up and help?
  - get inspired by someone’s idea?
  - share a new idea?
• Raise your hand if you came up to get your team’s white board? (so you took the initiative to get things started for your team & step-up to do something to help)
• So, as a team, you strengthened your connection through your birthday month commonality, you collaborated as a team to think creatively and maybe think outside the box a bit, and some of you stepped up as leaders and inspired others to get more involved in reaching your goal of creating this birthday month slogan
• That’s a great team effort . . . give yourselves a hand!
Facilitator Notes to Read Before Starting Activity: (when training this activity at a conference, explain these notes after the debrief)

- Everyone plays, including Leadership Team/Supervisors if using as a staff training activity (only non-player is facilitator)
- All supervisors observe what’s happening in their birthday month groups as they participate throughout the activity (some groups might not have a supervisor - - depends on birthdays)
- Facilitator moves around observing group dynamics
- Looking for . . .
  - Who takes initiative
  - Who leads
  - who follows
  - who takes over without allowing collaboration
- Begin to learn about your participants / staff (if staff training activity) very quickly