

BIRTHDAY MONTH SLOGANS ICE BREAKER

Supplies:

- Mini-White Boards, Markers, Erasers

Activity Instructions:

- Participants divide by birthday month into 12 groups
 - Can do Incorporations to “incorporate by month you were born in”
 - 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
 - Maximum group size should be 7. If 8 or more, split into smaller groups
 - 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