



Family Favorites

Great for creativity and sharing values expressing gratitude/positivity

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Using pieces of paper, individuals draw things they are thankful for/favorite things.

WHAT YOU NEED

- A flat surface for the “puzzle”
- At least one piece of 8½ x 11 paper (more pieces may be needed for larger groups or younger kids)
- Crayons, markers, pencils, and/or pens

DIRECTIONS

For small groups, tear a piece of paper into the same number of pieces as there are people. Each person then takes a piece of the torn paper (puzzle pieces) and draws a picture to represent something they are thankful for. Pieces are then put back together to make a family puzzle of things they are thankful for. Give everyone an opportunity to share what is on their puzzle piece. Take a photo of the puzzle or tape it together.

Variations of what to draw on the puzzle pieces:

- Favorite thing about being together
- Place you want to visit
- Goal you have for yourself
- Favorite thing about the other group members/family members



Paper Towers

Great for creativity and perseverance

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Using pieces of paper, individuals (or small groups) will attempt to create the tallest free-standing tower they can.

WHAT YOU NEED

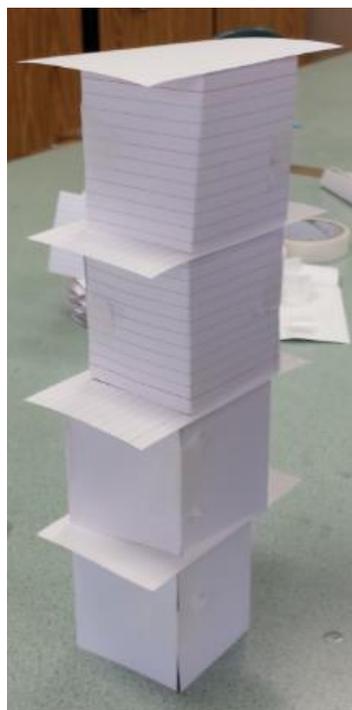
- A flat surface for each tower
- 15–40 pieces of paper (8½ x 11 works great, but any size can work) for each tower
- 5–15 minutes

DIRECTIONS

Using just the pieces of paper, participants will try to make the tallest free-standing (not using anything else to keep it together and standing) tower that they can. The tower must remain standing on its own for at least 10 seconds.

Variations:

- Limit the amount of time to build the tower.
- Change the amount of time the tower has to stand on its own.
- Write or draw pictures of what you need in order to be the best you can be on the pieces of paper.
- Set a goal for how tall the tower needs to be. How many pieces of paper does it take? Can you do it with less paper?
- Use other items to make the towers (shoes, spaghetti and marshmallows, toilet paper and paper towel rolls, plastic cups) . . . use tape, playing cards, combination of items, etc.).



Are You More Like . . . ?

Great for decision making, accepting differences, listening

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Participants will stand in a designated area based on their choice of two options. They will then have an opportunity to share why they made the choice they did.

WHAT YOU NEED

- An open space large enough to fit everyone who is playing comfortably
- Something to put on the ground to separate out the space into two areas (string, shoelace, rope, whatever can be safely placed on the ground to either make a straight line or a circle)

DIRECTIONS

After placing the dividing line on the ground, instruct the participants to place themselves into the appropriate area based on your options. For example, if you had a circle on the ground, you could ask them to step inside the circle if they are more like an apple, and outside the circle if they are more like a banana (or one side of the line if they are more like an apple and the other side if they are more like a banana). Once everyone has chosen a side, give people a chance to share why they picked what they did.

Remember that it is not about one option being right but about learning, observing, and listening to why people made their specific choice. They are making the choice that best suits them.

Are you more like . . . ?

- Chocolate or strawberries
- Carpet or wood floor
- A hard cover book or a paperback book
- Skim or 2% milk
- A chair or a couch
- Glass or plastic
- A bus or a plane
- Sandals or shoes
- Shade or sun
- A weekday or a weekend
- A cat or a dog
- Cheerios or Corn Flakes
- A pen or a pencil
- Math or art
- A run or a walk
- An elevator or stairs
- MAKE UP YOUR OWN and have FUN!

FUN QUESTIONS TO ASK

- Was it harder to make a choice or to explain your choice?
- When making your choice, did you try to imagine yourself as those things, or did you just pick the thing you liked most?
- Which two options were the most fun for you to pick an answer?

Reverse Charades

Great for creativity, self-expression, adapting to what others are doing

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

A person (“guesser”) will try to guess the clue that the rest of the group will be acting out.

WHAT YOU NEED

- An open space
- Paper and pencil to write down clues
- Timer

DIRECTIONS

This is a twist on the classic game of charades. Instead of one person acting out a clue for a team to guess, a team acts out clues for a person to guess. Pick one person to start as the guesser, one person to pick the target word/clue (“facilitator”), and who will be the “acting team” (the people doing the charades). Make sure to rotate through the positions. The facilitator shows the target word/clue to the acting team. The team members may not mouth any words to each other or the guesser. There is no planning with each other ahead of time (that’s part of the fun). The facilitator then says “go” and gives the group 60 seconds to try to act out the target word/clue for the guesser. See how many you can get right. You may want to have the categories written down ahead of time on paper and have the facilitator pick a piece of paper, then pick one of the words/phrases in the category.

Categories:

- Werewolf/desert island/Lego
- Ice cream truck/peanut butter and jelly/polo
- Zombies/Christmas tree/underwater
- Fashion show/Washington/shopping
- Family tree/Big Mac/water balloon
- Roller coaster/Michael Jackson/wizard
- Skipping class/prom/arm wrestling
- Food fight/trampoline/blind date
- Batman/rapper/break a leg
- Dinosaurs/gold medal/watermelon
- Magic trick/Shakespeare/Rose Bowl
- Octopus/marathon/Olympics
- Rewind/tug o’ war/king of the hill
- Ambulance/sunburn/Mickey Mouse
- Photograph/toilet/treasure chest
- Gymnastics/belly dancing/dentist
- Restaurant/stilts/security
- Butterflies/point/sandpaper
- Penguins/cheerleader/airport
- Lost/ice fishing/elves
- Zoo/ladder/home run

- Pirates/snowball fight/gingerbread man
- Choir/hot chocolate/sand castle
- Helicopter/pigtails/black eye
- Ice skating/tent/witch
- Elevator/hug/fly swatter
- Auditorium/hot sauce/hula hoop
- Hair spray/monkey bars/fumble
- Paparazzi/prom/chain saw
- MAKE UP YOUR OWN and have FUN!

