



Common Ground

Description

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Help students learn more about each other in an active and engaging game.

Supplies

- No supplies needed

How to Play

1. Have half the students stand on one wall and the other half of the students stand on the opposite wall.
2. For each round, announce a physical attribute that the students may or may not have. For example a red shirt.
3. If a student has that attribute, they must run to the middle. Once they get in the middle students pair up with another student in the middle and find out something else that they have in common with that student.
4. Once they find out about another thing they have in common, they link arms and skip back to one side of the room.
5. If there is an odd number of students in the middle allow for a group of three or partner with that student.
6. Occasionally call on pairs to share out what they learned about their partner.
7. Once the middle is clear, you can announce the next category.
8. Continue this activity until the time is up.

Activity Prompts for Reflection

- Did anyone learn something new about someone else in the group?
- How difficult was it to find something in common with someone else?
- What is one thing you did not have in common with someone else?
- Why is it important to learn more about different people?

Other Ways to Play

- Tell them different ways to get to the middle other than running. Ex: crab walk, bunny hop, bear crawl, skip, etc.
- Push students to think of things they have in common other than physical attributes.
- Call out personality types instead of physical attributes. [Personality ABCs](#) can help you to brainstorm personality traits to call out.

Additional Notes

- Use the [SEL Activity Prompts](#) to tie other SEL competencies to this activity.

Downloads and Links

[Personality ABCs](#)

Category

1. Activities
2. Social Awareness

Sel-competency

1. Social Awareness

Allotted-time

1. 30 minutes

Themes

1. Get to Know You
2. No Supplies Needed