



Ice-breaker and Team-building Activities

Professional Development is offered at the cluster level, school level, local government level, state level and national level. Educators come together to discover outcomes rather than to be told everything; to explore and discuss rather than listen to lectures; and to make and create rather than receive handouts.

Ice-breakers and Team-building Activities can enhance the training sessions. An Ice-breaker is used to allow participants to introduce themselves to each other and to lead into the content of the training session. Team-building Activities are used to create and enhance the relationship of the participants' in the group.

<p>Ice-breakers</p> <p>Ice-breakers are used to introduce participants to each other, energize the group and focus on the direction of the session. The ice-breakers can be used to provide a baseline – what does the participant know about the content. This information guides the facilitator to the starting point of learning.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find the Missing Letter• Getting to Know Each Other• Draw my Picture• Detective!• Guess!
<p>Team Building Activities</p> <p>Team Building is a process of helping groups improve the way they accomplish tasks while enhancing each individual's ability to function effectively as a member.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Team Building Ideas• Building Bridges• Pieces of the Puzzle• Treasure Hunt• Categories



Selecting an Icebreaker or Team Building Activity

When selecting an Ice-breaker or a Team Building Activity, consider:

- What you know (or can find out about the group).
- The existing level of collaboration.
- Integrating the pieces or steps they have already completed.
- The size of the whole group and space available.
- The time you have to prepare and your energy level.
- The time available with the group.
- The facilities and supplies needed.
- The balance of relationship-building and task completion.
- Using active strategies that use multiple modalities and hook people's hearts and minds.