



LEARNINGbyte

Interest-based Learning

Identifying Interests



PURPOSE OF ACTIVITY

The purpose of this activity is to assist learners in considering strategies to identify individual interests and gathering more information using open-ended questions.



RESOURCES NEEDED

- Handout: *Identifying Interests*



SPECIFIC STEPS

1. At the start of the activity, give each learner a copy of the *Identifying Interests* handout.
2. Ask participants to interact with their colleagues to find a person who likes each interest identified on the handout. (Note: if group is small, one person could complete several squares; if group is large, no duplications)
3. When they've identified a colleague for a square, they should write the colleague's name, ask the colleague one open-ended question about his/her interest, record the open-ended question asked, and the response provided. Here's the catch-learners cannot use the same question (or question stem) more than twice.
 - **SAMPLE:** Sally indicated that she likes to go to concerts. Lucy writes Sally's name and asks, "Who's your favorite group or artist to see in concert?" OR "What about that group's or artist's style "speaks to you?" Lucy writes the question she posed to Sally and Sally's response.
4. Complete until each person's handout is filled to completion.
5. Bring group back together and ask if anyone got any fun responses to share.
6. Discuss the ease or challenge with coming up with an open-ended question for each interests.
7. Discuss how learners can use similar strategies when identifying child interests to support outcome writing and early intervention implementation. Ask if anyone is willing to share a "go to" question regarding child interests that has been useful in their work with families.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- [Identifying Child Strengths - Learning Guide: Identifying Children's Interests and Abilities](#) (ECTA Center)
- [Questions for Eliciting Family Interests, Priorities, Concerns, and Everyday Routines and Activities](#) (ECTA Center)

Identifying Interests

Find someone in the group who likes or enjoys the activity identified in each square. Write that person's name in the square and ask one open-ended question to get more information. Record your question and person's response. Fill in all squares.

Reading	Gardening	Watching Movies	Traveling
Crafting	Shopping	Internet Gaming	Listening to Music
Walking/Hiking	Watching TV	Vacationing	Cooking
Singing	Swimming	Photography	Acting
Boating	Exercising	Baking	Going to Concerts