**Parent-Teacher Partnerships for Student Success**



**Module 4: Competence, Parenting, and Learning at Home**

**Parent Teacher Partnership Icebreakers**

1. **We are the same – and different! (can do this as partners, or teams!)**

Answer the following questions and record your answers in your own circle if they are different, or in the Us circle if they are the same! Do you have more in common than not? Are your differences going to affect your partnership?

I have traveled outside of the U.S. OR only in the U.S.

I have a sibling(s) OR I am an only child

When I have free time, I enjoy reading OR exercising

I enjoy cooking OR eating out

I prefer chocolate OR hard candy

I stream /record / rent movies OR go to the movie theater

I grew up in a city OR small town

I play instrument/sing OR listen to others

I am a morning person OR night person

I prefer coffee/tea OR soda

I watch the news OR read the news online / in paper

I am excited OR nervous about this project!I

I’d rather relax at the beach OR mountains

1. **Choose a string:**
   1. Each person chooses a pre-cut string from a brown bag without looking, and says something about themselves that the other person does not know. Each time the string will go around their finger.
2. **Candy Game**
   1. Each team gets a pre-filled snack bag with a variety of candy. Each participant chooses 5 pieces of any candy they want. After they have chosen, post what category each candy represents and have them give a response for each piece of candy.
      1. Red – favorite hobbies
      2. Green – favorite place to visit
      3. Blue – favorite memory
      4. Yellow – dream job
      5. Orange – wildcard (choose to tell something about yourself!)
3. **Superlative Game**
   1. No talking as group works as a team to put in order, 1 category at a time – share answers after each category.
      1. Tallest to shortest
      2. Birthday month
      3. Number of siblings
      4. Number of houses lived in
      5. Year of vehicle
      6. Other?
4. **What’s In a Name?**
5. Using the letters in your first name, come up with a word for each letter that describes you!

OR

1. Describe where your name came from. (Family name? Heritage? Spiritual? Etc.)
2. **Bingo (see sheet)**
   * + - 1. Fill in spaces and have each person in the group try to meet someone who can fit that space – have them initial – don’t forget FREE space! Winner needs to introduce those they met to get Bingo!
3. **My favorite \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .**

Make categories on paper and tape around the room, then have each person travel to a category and talk about their favorite. Keep each allowable number at category as even as possible (for example, if 10 in group, maybe only have 2 categories at a time with 5 people in each). Allow 3-4 minutes in each category.

*Categories may include: type of dessert, TV show, book, movie, vacation, leisure activity, music, vacation destination, color, holiday, season, etc.*

1. **Partner Greeting**
2. Have each partner team take 1 minute to get to know each other briefly. Each person introduces themselves and shares 3-5 things they would like to share with the group. Then, have the partner introduce the other partner to the entire group, and share 2 points they learned!
3. **Discussion Dice** (Epstein, et. al, p. 173)

Contents were developed under a grant from the US Department of Education, #323A120002-13 and adapted in 2017 by The Ohio State University. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the US Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government. Project Officer, Jennifer Coffey. PTP Documents Archive: <https://u.osu.edu/familyschoolpartnerships/ptp/>