

Ideas for Forming Groups

Ways to find a partner-line up and then pair up.

Line up in ABC order of:

- Your first name
- Your mother's name
- Your favorite fruit
- Your favorite color
- Your favorite actor
- Your favorite movie
- Your street name
- The name of the last city you lived in
- The country you're from
- Your favorite cousin's name
- Your occupation
- Your favorite animal
- Your favorite flavor of ice cream
- Your favorite American food
- Your favorite restaurant
- Your dream job
- Your boss' name
- An English word that is difficult for you
- The most important body part (in your opinion)
- Vocabulary word chosen out of a paper bag (e.g. Thanksgiving word, job vocabulary)
- Common first names in the U.S. (chosen out of a paper bag)

Line up in numerical order by....

- Your shoe size
- Your lucky number
- Your house number
- The number of siblings you have
- The number of places you've lived
- What time you got up this morning
- Average number of cups of coffee you drink every day
- Your height
- How many hours a week you work
- When you came to the U.S.
- Your birthday
- Number of immediate family members
- Number words chosen out of a bag

Find someone who...

- is wearing the same types of shoes as you
- has the same length of hair as you
- was born in the same month as you
- is wearing the same color top as you
- likes the same type of music as you

Line up in 2 lines based on your response to the question:

- Do you prefer McDonald's or Burger King?
- Do you like fish?
- Do you like boxing?
- Do you prefer to watch sports or participate in sports?
- Do you prefer basketball or baseball?
- Are you a morning or a night person?
- Do you like peanut butter?
- Do you like swimming in the ocean?
- Have you visited New York City?
- Can you play a musical instrument?
- Do you prefer to write with a pen or pencil?
- Do you prefer pepperoni or cheese pizza?

To form small group of 3,4,5, etc.:

Have students choose slips of paper out of a bag and move to the appropriate table or corner of the room based on the information on their little slip of paper.

Label each table or corner with the group's category title:

- 4 food groups (vegetables, fruits, meat, dairy products)
- Animal environments (desert, mountains, jungle, ocean)
- Important information (names, phone numbers, addresses, birthdays,)
- Geographic areas (cities, counties, states, countries, continents)
- Seasons (spring, summer, autumn/fall, winter)
- Famous people (actors, actresses singers, U.S. Presidents, international leaders)
- First letter of common first/last names in the U.S. (slips of papers have names on them)

Slips of paper can have the category title or items within the category.

Example:

For the category SEASONS, slips of paper might say: June, September, January, etc.

Adapted from similar list by Karla Abston-Posthumus, Prince William County Public Schools, 2003