

Title

Interview Circle

Source

Method presented during the International Trainers Laboratory, October 2001, by Azucena Crespo (Spain). For further information on the International Trainers Laboratory, please contact IJAB e.V., Kerstin Giebel, Heussallee 30, D-53113 Bonn, Tel.: 0228/9506223, Fax: 0228/9506199, E-Mail: giebel@ijab.de.

Field/Content

Getting to know each other

Duration

Depends on the amount of questions posed.

Participants

12 and more.

Aims

Getting to know each other.

Ice-breaking.

Can as well be used as an introduction to a topic (by posing according questions).

Materials / Resources

Nothing special.

Preparation

Prepare the questions.

Methodology

In two circles of chairs, one inside the other, every participant sits down in front of another participant, face to face. The monitor gives the instructions: They have only 3 minutes to answer the different questions they are going to hear.

First question:

If you were an animal, which one would you like to be? And why?

When time is up the people in the external circle stand up and change places, moving "5" chairs to the left. Everybody has another partner for the next question.

Second question:

Chat about the nicest or funniest situation that you experienced last week.

After the time is up, it is the turn of the internal circle to stand up and move to the left. Every time a question is finished the circles alternate changing places.

Other questions:

- If you could choose, where would you like to be instead of here? Why?
- What is the longest distance you have ever traveled? What did you do there?
- What would you like to do when you grow up? (Come on - tell us your personal dreams for the future!).

Evaluation / Debriefing

None

Variants

It's almost the same, only the fixed time (2 minutes) is used like this:

- first: only the people who are sitting in the external circle may answer, the other person may not speak at all, just listen.
- After that is it the turn of the people in the internal circle to speak while their partners just listen.

When these two turns have finished it is time to move the circle in the way explained above. Depending on the objective we want to reach we can propose different kinds of questions and use this dynamic not only as a ice-breaker.