Icebreaker: 20 Questions

Breaking the ice in a room of 30+ people can be hard. Twenty Questions is an easy icebreaker that quickly gets people talking and laughing.

Instructions

1. Prior to the session, choose 20 of the following questions. You can also add questions that you believe will generate interesting conversation in your group.
2. In the session, introduce the activity and its purpose.
3. Explain that you'd like everyone who can answer "yes" to a question to stand after you read the question. Ask everyone to notice who is standing. You may wish to ask a few people who are standing for some details before moving on to the next question.
4. After completing all 20 questions, ask people to find one person who stood for something they would like to know more about. Allow approximately 10 minutes for people to connect with others in the room.

Sample Questions

- ❑ Is the parent of twins?
- ❑ Jogs five or more days each week?
- ❑ Has performed in a karaoke bar?
- ❑ Has visited or hiked the Grand Canyon?
- ❑ Has been late and missed an airplane?
- ❑ Has been horseback riding?
- ❑ Has NEVER seen a Broadway show?
- ❑ Has seen the Egyptian Pyramids in person?
- ❑ Has ever been stuck in an elevator?
- ❑ Counts photography as a hobby?
- ❑ Has ever owned a small business?
- ❑ Is on the board of their local PTA?
- ❑ Has performed their own home renovation project?
- ❑ Has performed for an audience of 50+ people?
- ❑ Has ever been a radio DJ?
- ❑ Has witnessed the birth of an animal?
- ❑ Is a bookworm?
- ❑ Has gone orienteering?
- ❑ Has played a virtual reality game?
- ❑ Owns a classic car?
- ❑ Is a certified scuba diver?
- ❑ Does not own a television set?
- ❑ Can play a musical instrument?
- ❑ Has served on a jury for a trial?
- ❑ Speaks 2 or more languages?
- ❑ Has a living relative at least 100 years old?
- ❑ Has called into a talk radio program?
- ❑ Has more than 5 brothers or sisters?
- ❑ Earned a varsity letter by playing on a sports team in high school or college?
- ❑ Received at least part of their education in another country?
- ❑ Has had to flee an area hit by an earthquake, tornado, or hurricane?
- ❑ Can dance salsa, meringue, or tango?
- ❑ Remembers where they were when JFK was assassinated?
- ❑ Remembers where they were when the Challenger exploded?
- ❑ Follows the World Cup?
- ❑ Has cooked a recipe from a Julia Childs cookbook?
- ❑ Is most comfortable with 4 – 6 hours of sleep?
- ❑ Ever attended a concert by the Grateful Dead or Jefferson Airplane?
- ❑ Has spent the night in airport?
- ❑ Has met a sports or entertainment celebrity?
- ❑ Has gone on an ecotourism trip?
- ❑ Has been mentioned in a newspaper?
- ❑ Has spoken at a seminar or conference?
- ❑ Has a pet who has won an award?

Icebreaker derivation unknown. If you know who created this icebreaker, please let us know so we can properly credit that person in the future.