



Kinesthetic Secondary Activity

This activity is suitable for secondary grades. It requires students in the class interact with each other. If that opportunity is not available to you, conduct the activity with an age-appropriate group of friends or family. In that case you would work with one group of 4 or more.

Musical Mingle

This activity is similar to Musical Chairs, with the exception that at the end, instead of sitting, the students are still standing and must continue to interact. Before the lesson begins, develop a set of subject-related questions that you want to ask students in order to assess their background knowledge of the topic. You will need sufficient space for students to walk around in groups.

Have all of the students to stand. Ask them to space themselves so that there are no large empty spaces between them.

Provide the following instruction:

- Tell the students that you will be playing a song, and while it is playing they should walk or dance around the classroom in whatever way they feel comfortable, until the music stops.
- Play the song until everyone has moved from their point of origin and stop the music when you are ready to proceed to the next step.
- When the music stops, have students pair up with the person closest to them. Give each student a written copy of one of your lesson questions and have them discuss it with their partner for 2 to 3 minutes.
- Restart the music and have students move around the classroom again, repeating the process as many times as you choose. You can hand out new questions, or have them discuss the questions you have already handed out, with their new partner.

Limit the number of questions to 4 or 5 so that you have enough time at the end of the activity to discuss the questions with the whole group. Ask students what they already knew about the questions, and what they learned from their partners about each question that they did not know before the activity began. Most students will feel confident about sharing with the whole class because they had the opportunity to clarify and test their thinking with their partners during the activity.

Document your observations, including the number of students who volunteered to share, and the frequency with which students indicated that they learned something new or developed a new perspective because of the interactions with partners. Ask students for feedback on the use of music and movement in the exercise and document their responses.