

QUICK TIPS

Classroom Icebreaker

The first day of class can be exciting and overwhelming. Therefore, an ice breaker could be welcomed.

I developed this ice breaker to help address any biases of stereotypes we might have, whilst giving students the opportunity to share more information about themselves and learn about their classmates

Steps To Implement This Icebreaker

1. Try to minimize any conversation amongst students from the time they enter the class.
2. Have students arrange themselves facing each other in a circle quietly.
3. Students will be asked to jot down a few things that they notice about the person sitting across from them.
4. You could either chose to have the students write down things that they observed, or you could give them questions to think about when they are formulating an opinion, or even a combination of posed questions and observations.

Sample Questions.

- a. Where do you think the person you are paired is from?
 - b. What do you think their favorite food is?
 - c. What are their favorite colors?
 - d. Why are they in this class?
5. Have students discuss what they wrote and give individuals the opportunity to clarify if the information is correct or not. This discussion time allows students to see who they share similarities with and the chance to learn more about each other.

Notes:

Remember, there is no talking at all, students formulating answers by just observing their classmate across from them

Rayola Chelladurai, Instructor, Allied Health Sciences