

Overview:

This is a simple exercise for students to warm up, move around the room, and practice sharing and listening to different perspectives.

Learning Outcomes:

- Knowledge: greater awareness of different points of view.
- Skills: ability to listen; ability to express one's own views.
- Attitudes: willingness to consider the validity of other perspectives, and to modify one's own views.

Instructions:

1. Before beginning the activity, post two signs at opposite sides of the room, one that says "Agree" and one that says "Disagree". A third sign, that says "Not sure", should be posted in between these two signs.
2. Explain that you will read some statements that students may have different opinions on. (Choose a statement that is relevant to the students and understandable.) Each person should decide what they think about the statement. Do they agree, disagree, or are they not sure? They should stand near the sign that shows what they think. They may also stand between two signs, if their opinion is somewhere in between.
3. Read the first statement. Give students some time to decide where to stand, and move to that place.
4. Ask a few people in each group to explain their opinion. Anyone else who hears something that makes them change their mind can move to a new place.
5. Repeat this process for additional statements on the same issue.
6. Ask the group:
 - What was your reaction to this activity?
 - What did you learn from it?
 - If you changed your mind – what made that happen?

Applications:

This is a great warm up for students to grow more confident in sharing their opinions, being open to hearing new opinions, and being comfortable with changing their minds upon hearing a new perspective or new information, especially if this activity is done regularly. This warmup can be used in any class or subject area, especially those dealing with history, social studies, current events, or even social emotional learning.

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