

SCHOOLYARD LEARNING

Birthday Circle Up

GRADES: 1-8 PRIMARY/JUNIOR/INTERMEDIATE - HEALTH AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION

LEARNING SKILLS AND WORK HABITS: Classroom Community, Equity & Inclusion

MATERIALS: None

ACTIVITY:

1. Go outside and gather the entire class.
2. Have students order themselves into a circle by birthday, so that a complete circle is formed with the student with the first birthday in January sitting or standing beside the student with the last birthday in December.
3. Once the circle is established, have each student introduce themselves to the individuals on either side of them.
4. To take it further, each student can be asked to find out something about the person to the left of them (hobby, favourite song/movie/book, etc). Starting somewhere in the circle – perhaps with the birthday closest to the date of this activity - the first student will introduce the student to their left - their name, birthday, and the piece of information.

TEACHER PROMPTS:

The intention of this activity is to get to know people in your class, and to be inclusive. It promotes interactions with students that might otherwise be in separate social groups, and provides immediate information that can connect them with other students in the class.

ACTIVITY OPTIONS:

When grade-appropriate, add a rule that the organization has to be accomplished without speaking.

