

Fun Starter Games

Name Tag

- A very quick and simple way for everyone to acknowledge each other at the start of the session. Everyone needs to have their names visible on the screen.
- Call out someone else's name. That person says "hey!"
- Then, they call out somebody else's name – they say "hey!"
- Keep going until everyone has been "tagged."

Sound Ball

- Start by forming their hands as if they're holding an invisible ball, and **saying the name of the person they're about to "throw"** the invisible ball to and making a sound while throwing the ball (it can be anything... "whee," "boing," "poof," "blah," "shayayayaya").
- The catcher must make the same sound that the thrower made. Then, the catcher names a new person to throw to, and throws it to them with a new made-up sound.
- Keep going until everyone has had the ball once.
- Tip: have everyone put their hands up to the camera if they haven't had the ball yet, so that as the game continues, the remaining throwers know who to throw to.

LET'S...

- One person says "let's ____" and offers a suggestion to the group for something everyone can do together (e.g. wave our hands in the air, give ourselves a high-five, do 3 jumping jacks, etc.).
- Everyone else replies with "yes, let's!" and does the suggested action for a few seconds.
- The person who just went picks the next person who will suggest a new action.
- Keep going for as long as you want—approximately 5 total suggestions is good (no need to go around and have everyone in a large group suggest an action... that might start feeling tedious).

High Five

- Have everyone turn on "Gallery view."
- Air-high-five your neighbors.
- Air-high-five your diagonal neighbors.

30-Second Dance Party

- You can share your audio and play a song for everyone to dance to.
- You can also make this a FREEZE dance where you turn the music off and everyone freezes. If they move after the music is off they sit out and watch.

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Theme Days

Tutors and tutors come to tutoring dressed in ‘theme-appropriate’ clothing. Here are some ideas:

- Pajama day
- Ugly sweater day
- Funny/favorite hat day
- Superhero day
- Plaid day
- Bring a pet to class day
- Halloween costume day
- Crazy hair day

Stand UP if...

Have a list of statements ready. People will stand up if they agree with the statement or if it’s true for them or if they like it, etc.

Examples:

- I like dogs better than cats
- I am the oldest child (only child, first child)
- Whenever it rains I like to eat cookies

Riddles

Tell riddles to see who can guess the answer. You could also assign a student and tutor to find a riddle to ask the group each week.

Mystery Bag

Place a “mystery item” in a paper bag and give clues as to what it might be. Students take turns guessing what the mystery item is. This can also be done with a student giving the clues and having the mystery item at their house.

Scavenger Hunt

Ask students and tutors to find various items in their home.

- Slipper
- TV Remote
- Keys
- Piece of Fruit
- Fork
- Something red
- Something soft
- band-aid
- Something round
- Pair of glasses
- Envelope
- 2 socks that match