

FRUIT SALAD- TUTTI FRUTTI

The participants stand in a circle. The facilitator chooses 3 names of fruits and gives a name of one fruit to each one in the circle. The facilitator calls a name of a fruit and people with this fruit change their place between each other. When the facilitator says 'fruit salad' or 'tutti frutti', all players change their places.

Time: 3 - 5 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 6 to 60



WINKING

The participants build pairs of 2 in front of each other in a circle. One person stays alone and tries to invite another person from the inside circle to run to her/him by winking her/his eye. The person in the outside circle tries to (gently) catch their partner, before they run away. When the person 'escapes', this person takes position at the outside of the circle. The person left alone winks for a new partner...

Time: 5 - 20 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 7 to 60

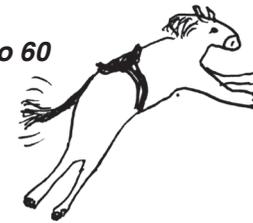
HORSE RACE

The participants stand in a circle. The facilitator is the commentator of a horse race, showing playful movements, like "starting flag", "hitting the legs" like on a horse, "turn to the left", "turn to the right", "jump", "wave to the queen", "stop for a photograph" and the finish line. Everybody follows the facilitator's commentary of the race.

Time: 3 - 5 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 3 to 60



A LITTLE FRIEND

The participants stand in a circle. The facilitator tells everyone, that she/he has a little friend in her/his hands, who wants to get active. When she/he pretends to throw the imaginary small friend above our heads, people squat down one after another. When the little friend is thrown below and runs under our feet, people jump up, one after another. This is repeated faster and slower in both directions.

Time: 3 - 5 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 7 to 60

PASSING THE BOTTLE

The participants stand in a circle. A plastic bottle is handed from one person to another, using only the knees for the transport. If the bottle falls, the game starts again two persons before. Instead of a bottle, we can use a balloon, which can be transported between our chests. In big groups several items can go around at the same time.

Time: 5 - 15 minutes

Material: Plastic bottle(s) or balloon(s)

Participants: 5 to 60

KNOT CIRCLE

All participants hold their hands standing in a circle. The facilitator walks into the circle, still holding hands and starts to build a 'human knot'. Everybody tries to get involved in the knot, till nobody can move without breaking the circle. After that, we try to gently unknot the circle.

Time: 3 - 15 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 10 to 60



Pocket Manual

CIRCLE GAMES

POWER
OF THE
OPEN
CIRCLE!



14 inclusive and intercultural games to be played with everybody and everywhere, activating and involving participants playfully

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This pocket manual was created from collected favourite games of the participants during the international e.p.a. Training Seminar "Power of the open circle - young people discover active citizenship" in Thessaloniki in June 2019. The games and exercises in this booklet are not copyright. We are happy if they are tried out and further developed.



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FREEZING AND MOVING

All participants stand in a circle and choose together one person to be in the middle, who closes her/his eyes. While everyone is dancing, the person in the middle opens her/his eyes. Everyone freezes in the position and if they move just a little, they go in the middle.

Time: 5 - 20 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 10 to 60



NAME GAME

The participants stand in a circle. The facilitator walks outside the circle. If she/he taps on somebody's shoulders, she/he will run around the circle in the opposite direction. When they meet, they shake hands three times and say their name – then continue running forward. Who arrives last at the starting point, stays outside the circle and chooses somebody else.

Time: 5 - 20 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 10 to 60



BANANAS

The facilitator sings a sentence in a circle and does a fitting movement. Others repeat:

Pick bananas, pick pick bananas,

Peel bananas, peel peel bananas

Chop bananas, chop chop bananas,

Eat bananas, eat eat bananas

Shake bananas, shake shake bananas

2 x go bananas, go go bananas (to the right, to the left)

Bananas Unite! (hands together over your head)

Time: 3 - 5 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 3 to 60

MUSICAL GROUPS

The participants stand in a circle. The facilitator sings a song or plays music. Everybody starts to dance and move.

The song stops and the facilitator says a number or raises a paper with a number. The group divides themselves quickly into small circles, according to this number and shake their hands. The task is repeated several times. This is a good game for dividing into groups!

Time: 5 - 7 minutes

Material: none or a source of music, papers with different numbers on

Participants: 15 to 100

GUESS WHO DANCES?

The participants are standing in a circle. One person goes outside. The rest of the group decide secretly, who of them starts to do some dance movement. The others imitate this movement. After a few seconds she/he changes the movement, the others follow. The person, who was outside, comes back to the middle of the circle and tries to find out the person, leading the movements. When she/he finds out who it was, they swap.

Time: 5 - 20 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 7 to 60

CATCH THE FINGER

The participants stand in a circle. Everyone puts one finger down showing the palm of hand of her/his neighbour on the left side. The right hand is held straight, the palm showing up, with some distance from the finger of the right neighbour. The facilitator tells the group to try to catch the neighbour's finger and to rescue the own finger at the same time, when she/he says a particular word (i.e. "green"). She/he then starts to tell a story, involving colours or just saying different colours.

Time: 3 - 5 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 7 to 60

COMING CLOSER, CLOSER, CLOSER...

The participants stand in a circle and hold their hands. They release their hands and start to walk in a circle to the rhythm of a chosen song. When the song stops, they turn back to the centre and take a little step forward into the centre. The song starts again and the process is repeated. In the end the circle is so small, that we need to sit on the knees of our neighbours, still walking to the music.

Time: 5 - 10 minutes

Material: none or a source of music

Participants: 7 to 60

MOON AND EARTH

The participants stand in a circle. They imagine to be "moons", which want to circle their 'earths'. Everyone chooses secretly an other person, who will be her/his earth. Everybody starts at the same time trying to circle her/his earth.

Time: 3 - 5 minutes

Material: none

Participants: 7 to 60

