

Brainstorming

Objective

Allows participants to share information and knowledge. Brainstorming is a quick and easy way to find out your participants' knowledge level and to get them to share best practices.



Time Required

About 40 minutes - can easily expand or contract the activity to suit the available time.

Materials Required

Flip chart paper and markers for each team

Instructions

- Explain that this is “wish” list. Ideas are wanted, no matter how practical or impractical they seem.
- Share the rules of brainstorming:
 - No evaluation
 - Discussion is prohibited
 - Free wheeling is welcome
 - The goal is quantity, not quality
 - “Hitchhiking” on other’s ideas is encouraged
- Break the class into teams of 4-6 each.
- One person in the team should be the scribe to record the group’s thoughts on a flip chart page.
- For 15 minutes, the team discusses the topic and allows each person on the team to speak while the scribe lists each key point or element on the flip chart.
- At the end of the 15 minutes, each team presents their findings to the remainder of the group.
- Prizes can be awarded for the team with the most ideas or key points.

Debrief

- What did we learn?
- Summarize the key learning points of the discussion and include any additional key concepts of the topic that may still need to be covered.
- Why did we work on this activity?

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