

## COMMONALITIES

**Objective:** Small groups compete to find the most hidden commonalities.

**Core Components:** Learning about others  
Understanding similarities and differences  
Identifying others' interest and strengths

**Materials:** One pencil and one piece of paper per team

### Procedure:

- Divide the group into small teams with four or five children per team
- Say to the children " As you look at the other children on your team, what do you see that you have in common with them?" Allow for answers like - "we're both boys," "we have the same hair color," " we all have on yellow shirts," etc.
- Then say "So, as you have shown me, you have a lot of visible commonalities. In this game we're going to try and find out what our hidden commonalities are. A hidden commonality is something we have in common with someone that we cannot see. For example, we both live on Oak Street or we both live with our grandparents."
- Next, give each team a piece of paper and a pencil
- Allow each team 15 minutes to find as many hidden commonalities as they can. A commonality is something two or more team members have in common.
- Each team is trying to reach the highest score.
- Points are awarded as follows - one point for a two-person commonality, two points for a descriptor that is common to three or four people, and three points for something common to the whole team.

### Reflection

Once the time is up, have each team share their lists. Start with three point commonalities. Ask the groups to share what they think is their most unique or interesting commonality.

- What was one thing you had in common with someone else in the group that surprised you? Go around the room and have each person answer