

# Sing Around

Activities to Facilitate Connections

ICEBREAKERS AND TEAM BUILDERS TO BUILD COMMUNITY

## OBJECTIVES

- For participants to bond during a friendly competitive activity
- To explore team dynamics and leadership

## MATERIALS

- Paper
- Pen/pencils
- Whiteboard or chart paper

## SETUP

- Divide the participants into three or four groups. (*Group size will depend on the size of your group, but you should have at least three people in each group.*)

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Give each group a **sheet of paper and a pen** to keep track of their song list.
2. Explain that in this activity you will **shout out a word** (for example, "World!"), and each group will have **three minutes to think of as many songs as possible that contain that word**. The word does not have to be in the title, just in the lyrics of a song. *For example:*
  - "If I Ruled the World" (Nas, featuring Lauryn Hill)
  - "What a Wonderful World" (Louis Armstrong)
  - "We Are the World" (Michael Jackson)
3. Instruct participants to **write down the line of the song that contains the assigned word, rather than the whole song or the artist's name** [for example, "Now the joy of my **world** is in Zion," or "Speech is my hammer, bang the **world** into shape. Now let it fall... (Hungh!!)"] **because in a few minutes we will be going into a singing battle and the whole group will need to be able to sing that line/verse.**

CONTINUED



# Sing Around continued

4. After three minutes **call, "time"** and ask groups to **stay together** but join you in the center of the room creating a **large circle**.

5. Explain that they need to **sing only the line containing the word** (*not the whole song*), but **they must sing in unison** (*i.e., they should ensure everyone in the group knows the line of the song*).

Once a song is used, **another team cannot use it**. If a team uses a **previously used song**, then that team is out. If a team **runs out of songs**, they are out. If everyone in the group **does not sing**, they will be asked to sing that line again.

6. **Point** to the first group and ask them to kick it off with their first song. Once they have sung a line or two and you hear the selected word **point** to the next group.
7. **Continue** going around the room, with each group singing the line from the next song on their list until one team is left.
8. **Keep score** on the whiteboard/chart paper, giving **one point for each song** each team sings.

*Some suggested words for the Sing Around include: LOVE, BABY, WORLD, GIRL, CHANGE, JUSTICE.*

## DEBRIEF

- **How was your group's communication?**
- **How did you decide which songs to use?**
- **What happened when one member of your group did not know a song or a line from a song?**