



## ACTIVE GAMES



# Get to Know You Beach Ball

A Fun & Interactive Game to Help Classmates get Acquainted with One Another

## TIME:

10-15 Minutes

## GATHER THIS:

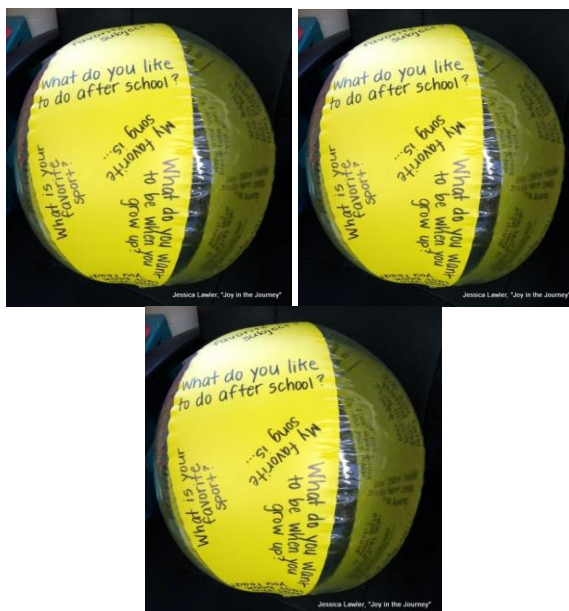
- 1 inexpensive beach ball
- Permanent marker

## HOW TO PLAY:

1. Inflate the beach ball
2. Use a permanent marker to write a get-to-know-you questions all over it.

Tested, edited & approved by:

Sarah Springer, Aurora High School Senior



3. Gather your students in a circle. Outdoors is a great option.
4. Toss the ball to a student and they are to read and answer the question that is closest to their right thumb.
5. That student then tosses it to another friend who answers the question closest to their right thumb. Play several rounds so each student has a chance to answer multiple questions.

## POSSIBLE QUESTIONS TO USE:

1. What is your favorite animal?
2. What is your favorite candy?
3. What is your favorite dessert?
4. What is your favorite food?
5. What is your favorite sport to play/watch?
6. What is your favorite color?
7. What do you want to be when you grow up?
8. What place would you like to visit?
9. Do you have any siblings?
10. What is your favorite song?
11. What hobbies do you enjoy?
12. How do you like to spend your free time?
13. What is a superpower you wish you had?
14. What is your favorite movie?
15. If you were invisible, where would you go?
16. What's one thing you can't live without?
17. What grade are you in/ going into?
18. Who is your favorite celebrity?
19. Who is one person you wish you could meet?
20. What hobby(s) do you have?
21. Why did you choose to come to camp?
22. If you were an animal, what would you be? Why?
23. What's your biggest pet peeve?
24. What are three adjectives that describe you?
25. Do you have any pets? Names? What are they?
26. If you could have one animal as a pet, what would it be?
27. What is the best costume that you wore for Halloween?
28. Do you have any nicknames you like to be called? If so, what?
29. What is your favorite subject in school?
30. What are you most proud of?
31. What is the best gift you've ever received?
32. What is your favorite season: summer/fall/spring/winter?
33. What is your favorite ice cream flavor?
34. What is your favorite restaurant?
35. What is your favorite breakfast food?
36. If you were a vegetable, what would it be?
37. What is your favorite thing to do in the summer?
38. What is your favorite superhero?
39. What is your favorite board game?
40. What is your favorite genre of music?





RELATIONSHIP  
BUILDING

Tested, edited &  
approved by:

Shawna Vinkenberg,  
Edgerton Afterschool  
Coordinator

# Hands Up For Science

## TIME:

20-25 Minutes

## GATHER THIS:

- Mural Paper/Roll Paper with the words “Hands Up For Science” “Reach for the Stars” on it.
- Paper for kids to trace their hands and forearms on Or print use a preprinted handprint template (included below).
- Washable Markers
- Scissors
- Painter’s Tape to affix mural to the wall
- Glue sticks or Rubber Cement to attach hands to mural
- Star cut outs - write areas of science study on each star

## THEN DO THIS:

If you are having your students trace their own hands, they start at step 1. If using preprinted hands, skip to step 2.

1. Outline hand and part of arm with pencil first (outline non-dominant hand) and then trace over the pencil with sharpie marker. Demonstrate how to do this.
2. Cut out hand outline.
3. Use markers to decorate a one-of-a-kind hand.
4. The child needs to include their first name on the front of their hand.
5. Kids may design the hand how they want, include things about themselves or simply decorate it.
6. When completed, kids may glue their hand to mural. Add on stars.
7. Display in a prominent place in your classroom.
8. Display mural in a prominent place for kids to enjoy.

Show a finished hand outline that you have designed and cut out. Talk about what things you like that you included on your hand, favorite colors you used, etc. Then brainstorm things the students could include on the hand outline....circles, stars, hearts, swirls, diamonds. Favorite sport, activity, food, season, etc.

## OPENING DIALOUGE:

“Hey everyone! Welcome to \_\_\_\_\_! We are just so glad you are here today. It’s going to be a fun year/semester/week here at the \_\_\_\_\_! We will be discovering so many things about the world around you during the After School Program. We will investigate and learn about **science, our world, animals and today we are going to learn a little about each other!**

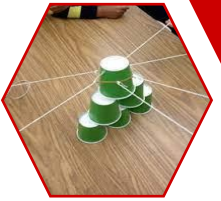
To help us learn more about the friends around you, we are creating a mural together that says, “Hands Up for Science!” “Reach for the STARS!”

“Each Student will be creating a one-of-a-kind hand that is designed by you and shows a little bit about who you are!”





The Edgerton Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. 208 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Aurora, Nebraska 68818  
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**RELATIONSHIP  
BUILDING**

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Sarah Springer, Aurora  
High School Senior

## No-Hands Cup Stacking Challenge

### TIME:

10-15 Minutes

### GATHER THIS:

- Cups (Paper or plastic 12 oz size)
- Rubber bands
- String

### PROCEDURE:

Determine if you will put kids in groups of 4, 5 or 6.

Tie that many equally spaced strings (about 1 ½ feet long) around a single rubber band. (the rubber band needs to be able to stretch and encircle the bottom of your solo cups.

### THE CHALLENGE:

The challenge is for the group to build a pyramid out of the paper cups (3 on the bottom, 2 in the middle, 1 on the top - can be adjusted for more cups). Group members cannot touch the cups with their hands or any other part of their bodies, even if a cup falls over or on the floor. Each person holds onto one of the strings that are attached to the rubber band and they use this device to pick up the cups and place them on top of each other (by pulling the rubber band apart and then bringing it back together over the cups).

When a group is successful, they may then work together to “unbuild” the pyramid.

Different groups will take different amounts of time to complete the challenge. Afterwards debriefed with the following discussion questions:

- Was anyone frustrated at all during the activity? If so, how did you handle it?
- What did you learn about yourself or others?

## ADDITIONAL ACTIVITES:

Use a permanent marker to label the bottoms of cups with pairs of shapes. (EX. 2 hearts, 2 squares, 2 triangles, 2 circles, 2 spirals)

Kids can use their string and rubber band tools to stack “like” pairs, one cup on top of the other, again without using their hands and by using teamwork.

Put an empty basket or box on the table and have teams attempt to stack the cups in the container





Relationship  
Building



# String Web Activity

## TIME:

10-15 Minutes

## GATHER THIS:

- Ball of Yarn

## HOW TO PLAY:

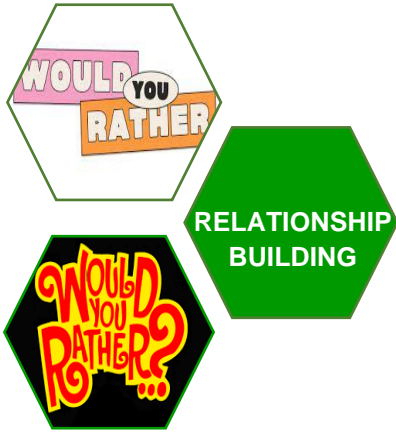
1. Gather the students in an open space in your room and have them sit in a circle.
2. Start with the ball of yarn in your hands and 1. Say your name and 2. Share something about yourself.
3. Hold the end of the yarn in one hand and with the other hand toss the ball of yarn to a student.
4. That student catches the ball of yarn and answers the same two questions before holding on to the yarn and tossing it to another friend.
5. Continue on until everyone has had a turn.
6. If time allows, go through another round asking "favorite sport," "favorite snack," "favorite animal," etc.

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High School Senior







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# Would You Rather

## TIME:

5-10 Minutes

## ABOUT THE GAME:

Start a dialogue with the reminder that we are all different and that is what makes life and friends so fun and interesting!

Today we are going to discover some fun things about our class—

We will discover we all have different interests and talents.

We will discover that we may like different things — and that is GREAT! It would be a boring world if everyone was the same and thought the same and liked the same things!!

## HOW TO PLAY:

- Have kids stand in a single file line facing the “question asker” who is standing at the front of the room.
- When each question is asked, kids will step either right or left out of line to indicate their preference. Have them look around to see their peer’s responses. All volunteers and helpers can be in the line as well indicating their preferences! preference for each question---have kids either step right or left out of the line. All volunteers and helper need to be in the line too showing their preferences.

## WOULD YOU RATHER QUESTIONS:

**Would you rather** ride an elephant or a camel?

**Would you rather** eat one bar of chocolate or two popsicles?

**Would you rather** be able to fly or breathe underwater?

**Would you rather** swim with dolphins or swim with turtles?

**Would you rather** play football or hide and seek?

**Would you rather** be an amazing dancer or an amazing singer?

**Would you rather** eat at McDonald’s or eat at SpongeBob’s restaurant?

**Would you rather** be invisible or be able to fly?

**Would you rather** own a horse or a bear?

**Would you rather** be able to drive a car or fly a plane?