## INTERACTIVE STUDENT ACTIVITIES

**HEALTH ON THE GO!** 



### HEALTH READY On the Go!

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### Let's GO!

Hi there! I'm so excited to bring you Health on the GO!, a collection of my favorite interactive health activities designed to energize and engage students in meaningful health learning. After years of teaching and sharing these activities at state and national conferences, I found myself constantly fielding the question, "Where can I get these activities?" So here we are!

In creating Health READY®, I realized the need for flexible, impactful health activities that fit any curriculum and class schedule. That's why I developed Health on the GO!—a versatile set of activities that can stand alone or be seamlessly integrated into your existing curriculum (and, if you're using Health READY®, you'll find these are a perfect match!). Each activity is crafted to deepen students' understanding and let them actively apply health concepts in a fun, collaborative, and enriching environment.

Whether you have just 30 minutes or a full 90, you'll find something here to suit your needs. These activities align with the eight national health standards and cover essential health topics. Dive in, mix them into your lessons, and watch your students' engagement and enthusiasm soar!



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### **Clumps**

#### NATIONAL HEALTH STANDARD SKILL

- Use interpersonal communication skills to support health and wellbeing of self and others.
- Use functional health information to support health and well-being of self and others.

#### **MATERIALS NEEDED**

None

#### **PREPARATION**

None



#### STUDENT EXPLANATION

One of the most powerful parts of health class is the connections we make with the people around us.

Every person in this room has their own unique experiences, interests, and perspectives—but we also share more in common than we might realize.

Taking time to get to know each other helps build trust, respect, and a sense of belonging. When we connect, we not only learn about others, we often discover new things about ourselves.

This activity is all about seeing those connections and appreciating the similarities and differences that make our class stronger.

- Have all students stand in an open area where they can move freely.
- Announce a "Clump" category (see sample categories on next page) one at a time.
- Students think about their answer and then quickly move to form a "clump" with others who share the same response.
- Give each "clump" a few moments to notice who is in their group and chat briefly.
- Call out a new category and have students form new clumps.
- Continue until all categories are complete or time runs out.

### Clumps

#### **ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS Continued**

#### "CLUMP" Categories:

- 1. Favorite color
- 2. Favorite ice cream flavor
- 3. Favorite season of the year
- 4. Favorite topping on pizza
- 5. Your birthday month
- 6. Favorite outdoor activity
- 7. Favorite subject in elementary school
- 8. Favorite fast-food restaurant
- 9. Favorite type of dessert (cake, pie, cookies, etc.)
- 10. Favorite video game or board game
- 11. Favorite TV show or streaming series
- 12. Favorite type of shoe to wear
- 13. Favorite sport or physical activity in PE
- 14.Pet preference (dog, cat, other, none)
- 15. Favorite type of movie (comedy, action, mystery, etc.)
- 16. Favorite snack
- 17. Favorite style of music or artist
- 18. Favorite type of exercise or movement (walking, running, dancing, yoga)
- 19. Favorite sport to watch or play
- 20. Favorite superhero



### Tic-Tac-Talk

#### NATIONAL HEALTH STANDARD SKILLS

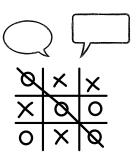
 Use interpersonal communication skills to support health and wellbeing of self and others.

#### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Dry erase markers and sleeves: 1 for every 2 students
- Tic-Tac-Talk Boards <u>https://tinyurl.com/4dmf</u> <u>ftnf</u>: 1 for every 2 students

#### **PREPARATION**

 Print and laminate Tic-Tac-Talk boards or place in dry erase sleeves



#### STUDENT EXPLANATION

Today we are playing a game called Tic-Tac-Talk, but this is not just about winning a square. It is about having real conversations that help us connect, listen, and learn from each other.

In every conversation, we have the chance to show that we are listening, that we care, and that we respect the people around us—even when they are different from us. Good communication is not just about talking. It is also about using kind words, asking thoughtful questions, and being a great listener.

As you play the game, you will get to know your classmates in new ways. You will hear different ideas, stories, and experiences. Every person has value and something meaningful to share, no matter who they are, what they believe, or where they come from.

So take your time, listen closely, and speak honestly. Your words can build trust, create understanding, and help someone feel seen and respected.

- Have students find a partner.
- Give each pair a Tic-Tac-Talk board and a dry erase marker.
- Ask them to decide who will be X and who will be O.
- Explain the rules:
  - Before placing an X or an O on the board, you must answer a get-to-know-you question.
  - Take turns until someone gets three in a row or the board is full.
- If you finish early, erase the board and play again using a new Tic-Tac-Talk Board.

# TIC-TAC-TALK

Directions: Find a partner and decide who will be X and who will be O. Before placing your X or O on the board, you must answer a get-to-know-you question. Take turns playing until someone gets three in a row or the board is full. If you finish early, erase the board and play again with new questions.

Would you rather fly or be invisible and why?

My favorite food to eat is

-----

What's one word someone would use to describe you?

If you could meet any famous person, who would it be?

What's your favorite season and why?

What's your favorite game to play?

What's your favorite snack?

I feel happy when

------

What's something that makes you feel calm?



### **Block Party**

#### NATIONAL HEALTH STANDARD SKILLS

 Use interpersonal communication skills to support health and wellbeing of self and others.

#### MATERIALS NEEDED

- Block Party Cards https://edushare.ing/58
- 12 colored blocks per team of 4
  - o 2 red
  - o 2 green
  - 2 yellow
  - 2 blue
  - o 2 purple
  - 2 orange
    - Substitute small colored sheets of paper for blocks

#### **PREPARATION**

- Print the block party cards and place each one inside a numbered envelope (1-16).
- Create 12 block sets (two of each color) for each team and place them in ziplock bags.
- Label each colored block with the first letter of its color to help all students easily distinguish between the six colors.

#### STUDENT EXPLANATION

Effective communication is key to building strong connections with others and making sure your message is understood.

When you are giving directions or sharing information, being clear and concise helps avoid confusion and makes it easier for others to follow along.

At the same time, effective communication is not just about talking; it is also about listening. Actively listening to others shows respect and helps you understand their perspective, which is essential for any great conversation or teamwork.

Today, you will practice strengthening both sides of communication to help you succeed in all areas of life!

- Organize students into teams of 3-4 members each.
- · Provide each team with 12 colored blocks. Ensure each set includes:
  - 2 red
  - o 2 green
  - 2 yellow2 blue
  - o 2 purple
  - 2 orange
- Position the Block Party Card patterns away from the teams. Suitable locations include against a side wall or at a distance that requires movement to view the patterns.
- Each team selects one member to act as the "engineer."
- Tell students, An engineer designs and plans structures like buildings, houses, bridges, and other projects, working closely with project managers to ensure their designs are executed effectively.

### **Block Party**

#### **ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS Continued**

- The engineer's responsibility is to guide their team in replicating the designated block pattern to successfully build their structure.
- · Assign a block party design to each engineer.
- Engineers are prohibited from physically interacting with the blocks. This includes
  pointing at or touching the blocks.
- Each engineer runs to their assigned block pattern, memorizes the layout, and then returns to their team to provide verbal instructions on how to replicate the pattern.
- Team members follow the engineer's directions to assemble the blocks into the correct pattern.
- Engineers are permitted to make multiple trips to view their pattern, ensuring they
  can give accurate and helpful directions to their team.
- Once a pattern is successfully replicated, the team selects a new engineer and prepares to replicate a new block pattern. Repeat the process for each new pattern and engineer.
- Block Party Tips:
  - Encourage clear and concise communication from coaches.
  - Foster teamwork by having team members actively listen and collaborate on solving the pattern.
  - Ensure fairness by rotating the coach role, giving each team member a chance to lead.



### **Beyond the Fold**

#### NATIONAL HEALTH STANDARD SKILLS

- Use interpersonal communication skills to support health and wellbeing of self and others.
- Demonstrate practices and behaviors to support health and well-being of self and others.

#### **MATERIALS NEEDED**

 8.5 x 11 paper for every student



#### STUDENT EXPLANATION

Understanding the perspectives of others is essential for building healthy relationships. It fosters empathy, mutual respect, and effective communication. When we take the time to see situations from another person's viewpoint, we can better appreciate their feelings, needs, and motivations, which helps reduce misunderstandings and conflicts. This approach promotes trust and cooperation, as each person feels heard and valued.

Additionally, being open to different perspectives broadens our own understanding, enabling us to grow and adapt within relationships, ultimately leading to stronger, more resilient connections.

- Distribute one sheet of blank paper to each student.
- Demonstrate and provide the following instructions one step at a time:
  - Fold your paper in half.
  - Fold your paper in half again.
  - Fold your paper in half one more time.
  - Turn your paper and tear off a small piece from the bottom right corner.
  - Turn your paper and tear off a small piece from the top left corner.
  - Turn your paper and tear off a small piece from the bottom left corner.
  - Turn your paper and tear off a small piece from the top middle.
  - Carefully unfold your paper to reveal your design.
- Tell students to hold their papers up for others to see. Allow some time for the students to observe the variety of designs that have resulted from the same set of instructions.

### **Beyond the Fold**

#### **ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS Continued**

- Lead a discussion about the activity. Emphasize that although everyone followed
  the same instructions, some designs turned out differently. Highlight that there is
  no right or wrong outcome; instead, this activity illustrates how different
  approaches and interpretations can lead to diverse results. Stress the importance
  of valuing and embracing different ideas, thoughts, and perspectives from others,
  as this diversity enriches learning and understanding.
- Ask students the following questions:
  - How did you feel when you saw that your paper design was different from your classmates' designs, even though you all followed the same instructions?
  - Can someone share how they decided where to tear the paper? What made you choose those specific spots?
  - Do you think having specific instructions limits creativity, or can it inspire creativity? Why?
  - What does this activity teach us about individuality and the importance of each person's unique contribution?
  - Did anyone find the instructions open to interpretation? How might this relate to how we interpret other types of instructions or information in our lives?
  - How can learning from our differences make us stronger as a team or community?
  - Did anyone make assumptions about what the final product would look like before we started? How did those assumptions compare to the actual outcome?
  - How can the lessons we learned from this activity apply to how we work together in class or understand each other better?