

Getting to Know You... Upper Elementary and Middle School

The first week of upper elementary and middle school grades can be a little tricky! As students get older, they are more reluctant to join in, be silly, or even share about themselves. You want to get to know your students, but you also want them to feel comfortable, and stay engaged. No need to stress! I have a real-world plan that worked for me for fifteen plus years, and I know you can do this!

The following pages have activities that you can print and use with your upper elementary and middle school students. Please note that each activity is designed to take about ten minutes, and have been tested on real students. Please check out my blog at teachingintherealworld.com for a more in depth look at the first week of school in an upper elementary and middle school classroom. My realistic approach to the first week of school really helps to set the tone for the entire year, and ensures that every school year will be a success.

Happy Teaching!



Who Am I???

Directions

1. Tape a card to your back-do not look at what is written on the card.
- 2.
3. Ask your classmates questions to try and figure out what your card says.

Be sure to only ask YES or NO questions.

4. Once you have guessed your card correctly, remove it from your back, and place it on the front of your shirt.
5. Continue to give clues to your classmates until everyone has guessed what their card says.

Question Inspiration/Suggestions

- Am I famous?
- Am I real or fictional?
- Am I still alive?
- Did I invent something?
- Am I a singer?
- Do I play a sport?
- Have you seen me on the big screen?
- Am I from the United States?



Who Am I???

Benjamin Franklin	Taylor Swift
Beyonce	LeBron James
Stephen Hawking	Millie Bobby Brown
Olivia Rodrigo	William Shakespeare
Nikola Tesla	Michael Jackson
Barack Obama	George Washington
Abraham Lincoln	Blake Shelton
Kylie Jenner	Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson
Zendaya	Super Man
Spider Man	Wonder Woman



Who Am I???

Selena Gomez	Katniss Everdeen
Hermione Granger	Ron Weasley
Rihanna	Tom Brady
Serena Williams	Lionel Messi
Kobe Bryant	Marie Curie
Anne Frank	Laney Wilson



What is Your Spirit Animal?

What is a spirit animal?

A spirit animal, in various spiritual traditions, is an animal believed to have a special connection to a person, acting as a guide, protector, or representation of their inner self. It's a concept that varies across different cultures and belief systems, but generally involves a deep, often symbolic, relationship between a person and a specific animal.

Common Spirit Animals

	Bear		Butterfly		Cat
	Crow		Deer		Eagle
	Bat		Fox		Owl
	Wolf		Coyote		Dolphin
	Dragon		Dragonfly		Elephant
	Hawk		Horse		Hummingbird
	Tiger		Bee		Dog

What is Your Spirit Animal?

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What are three attributes that you have in common with your spirit animal?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What is something about you that is different from your spirit animal?

Draw Your Spirit Animal



Would You Rather...

The goal of this game is for all of us to get to know each other! Our likes, dislikes, and what we have in common.

As I present a question to you, you **MUST** choose one of the answers provided. You may cast your "vote" by moving to the side of the room of the indicated answer that you agree with.

Remember, you must pick an answer! Even if you don't like either choice, you will need to pick the answer that you like the most. Once you start walking toward the direction of your choice, there is no turning back! You must stick with your original inclination.

Have Fun!



Would You Rather...

Eat pizza everyday...	OR	Eat potato chips everyday?
Have hands for feet...	OR	Have feet for hands?
Have to enter a room backwards...	OR	Have to somersault out of a room?
Be forced to sing along to every song you hear...	OR	Dance to every song you hear?
Have one week off of school each month, but attend all year...	OR	Have a traditional school schedule with summer break, winter break and spring break?
Make a snowman...	OR	Build a sand castle?
Travel 100 years into the past...	OR	100 years into the future?
Have no homework ever...	OR	Take a test every day?

