

Run sheet, My Name, My Voice

Goal. Every girl writes her own name and says one true thing about herself.

Before you start

- Tear one A4 sheet in two per girl. Each half is a name card.
- At each place: Sheet A, Sheet B, a name card, a pencil or one between two.
- Write up where all can see: I am _____. I like _____.
- **Say each name back the way she said it. Never correct a girl's own name.** Over about 20 girls, run 60 in pairs.

The clock, 45 minutes

- 0 to 5 min: name circle
- 5 to 15 min: saying it out loud
- 15 to 30 min: writing my name
- 30 to 40 min: my sentence
- 40 to 45 min: share and close

Run 45 if you can. Same five steps, shorter or longer. In 30 minutes: 0 to 4, 4 to 10, 10 to 20, 20 to 27, 27 to 30. In 60 minutes: 0 to 6, 6 to 18, 18 to 36, 36 to 50, 50 to 60. With mostly four-year-olds, shorten the middle, never the close.

What you do

1. Sit everyone in a circle. Say your own name and one ordinary true thing.
2. Go round. Each girl says her name. Say each name back the way she said it.
3. Go round again: her name, and one word for how she feels today.
4. Fill in both sentence starters yourself, twice, with ordinary true things.
5. Everyone says both aloud together. Then each girl says both to her neighbour, two minutes.
6. Write your own name where all can see, saying each letter as you form it.
7. Hand out Sheet A. Each girl writes her name three times, then makes her name card.
8. Walk the room as they write and reach every girl once.
9. Hand out Sheet B. Girls write, or draw then label. Take spelling the way she hears it.
10. Ask for volunteers. She reads it, holds it up, or you read it. All say: "We hear you."
11. Collect the name cards or hang them up. Say when you meet next.

Watch for

1. Every girl leaves holding her own name card and can pick it out of a pile.
2. Three or more girls put a sentence on paper on their own, in words or a labelled drawing.
3. Somebody adds what nobody asked for: a border, a second sentence, a drawing on the back.

What goes wrong most. Nobody speaks first in the circle. Answer your own starter again, then ask the girl beside you directly instead of asking the room.

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