

FIRST FIVE · STRATEGY 2 · CONNECT

Pick, Move, Connect

Connection, common ground, and positive peer interaction.



FOUNDATIONAL MESSAGE

We're better when we connect.



NOTICE



CONNECT



STRENGTHEN



DISCOVER WHY



ENVISION

STRATEGY 2 - CONNECT

Pick, Move, Connect

Focus: Connection, common ground, and positive peer interaction

Activity Summary

Students respond to four light, visual choices by moving to a designated area of the room. Once there, they make several quick, low-pressure connections with other students who made the same choice. The rounds move from playful preferences to interests and learning, helping students discover common ground while allowing the facilitator to learn more about the group.

Why it matters

Students do not need to have a deep conversation or immediately form a friendship to begin feeling more connected. Small, positive interactions can reduce social distance, create common ground, and help students feel more comfortable participating in the group. Repeated moments of connection help create a stronger sense of belonging.

Community Schools Connection

Belonging · Peer Connection · Positive School Climate

Community Schools rely on strong relationships and a sense of shared community. Quick opportunities to discover common ground can help students feel less isolated, strengthen peer relationships, and make the classroom or group feel more connected and inclusive.

Set Up the Room

Each answer choice corresponds to one specific area. Keep the same four-quadrant layout for every round so movement stays fast and simple.

FRONT LEFT

FRONT RIGHT

BACK LEFT

BACK RIGHT

“ SAY

This is front left, front right, back left, and back right.

Facilitator Framing

“ SAY

We're going to take a few minutes and see how many things people in this room already have in common.

“ THEN

I'll put four choices on the screen. Pick the answer that fits you best and move to the part of the room shown with that choice.

“ ADD

When you get there, connect with at least three people in your group. Give them a high five, fist bump, or wave -whatever you're comfortable with.

“ FINISH WITH

Nobody has to have a big conversation. We're just seeing how many quick connections we can make.

The Pattern

PICK > MOVE > CONNECT For every round: pick an answer, move to the assigned area, connect with two or three people, then return to the middle.

1

STEP 1

Food

If you could pick one right now...

Pizza	Tacos
Burgers	Something Else

“

SAY

Take a look. Pick one. Ready? Move!

“

ONCE STUDENTS ARRIVE

Connect with three people - high five, fist bump, or wave. Go!

“

THEN SAY

Back to the middle!

2

STEP 2

Superpower

If you could have one superpower...

Fly	Become Invisible
Super Speed	Read Minds

“

SAY

You've got three seconds. Don't overthink it. Pick your superpower. Go!

“

ONCE GROUPS FORM

Connect with three people.

“

THEN SAY

Back to the middle!

STEP 3

3

Free Time

When you have some free time, what sounds best?

Play Games

Get Active

Music, Movies, or Shows

Read, Draw, Make, or Create Something

“

SAY

Pick what sounds most like you.

“

THEN

Connect with three people who picked the same thing.

“

ADD

Take a quick look around your group. Now look across the room. We've got all kinds of interests in here.

4

STEP 4

Learning

When you're learning something new, you'd rather...

See It

Hear It Explained

Try It Yourself

Figure It Out With Someone

“

SAY Last one. Think about when you're trying to learn something you've never done before. Which one helps you most?

- Students move and connect.

“

ADD Interesting. Look at how many different ways we have represented in one group.

Close

“

SAY

In just a few minutes, you found several people who have something in common with you. You also noticed that we don't all like the same things or learn in exactly the same way.

“

THEN

Connection doesn't mean we all have to be alike. It means we notice each other, find common ground, and learn how to work together.

“

FINISH WITH

We're better when we connect.

We're better when we connect.



STUDENT PROGRESSION

PICK > MOVE > CONNECT



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