

6 Engaging Icebreakers for your online students



1

Line Up

Students score themselves from 1 to 10 on 5 items. Once all scores have been entered, students look for a peer with a similar score and they introduce themselves. Next, via Canvas Inbox, learn more about their peer to see what other interests they have in common.

In another discussion forum, it's now their job to introduce this person to the group.

2

Lost in Space

Students imagine they have been living on a space station for a year. Suddenly, the station malfunctions and they have 15 minutes to evacuate to a space shuttle. They are allowed to take 5 items with them.

Once students have entered their list, peers review lists and respond to a similarity or curiosity. Students can then explain their choices.

3

One Word

Students think of one word that best describes themselves. Students enter the word and explain why.

Peers review the entries and find someone whose word resonates with them. Then replies to their message and tries to find at least two additional adjectives that they have in common.

4

Things

Students find an image of an object(s) that represents who they are or why they are taking this course. They post the image and explain.

Peers review the entries to find an interesting image or explanation. They reply with comments or questions. The posting student then must reply with answers to the questions.

5

2 Truths + 1 False

Students enter 2 truths and 1 false statement (without labeling). Peers reply to two students' post by guessing which statement is false and explains their own logic for the guess.

Posting student waits until a given date to reveal their true and false statements. Then lists the peers who guessed correctly on their post.

6

Acrostic Poem

Students use their own name to create a short poem. Writing their name vertically to use each letter as a starting point or main word in the line.
S - I grew up in Seattle
A - Art is my favorite subject
M - Mac&Cheese is the best

Peers reply to two students with a question to learn more. Posting student replies to all questions.

