

Sample Prompting Questions & Topics for Circles

Please note: It is always important to carefully select which questions or topics to pose to the group depending on the needs of the group. The health of each member of the circle is always strongly considered. *Be prepared and know that some of the circle prompts may bring up various emotions for the circle members.

Getting Acquainted

- If you could be a superhero, what super powers would you choose and why?
- How would someone who knows you describe you?
- If you had an unexpected free day, what would you like to do?
- If you were an animal, what animal would you be and why?
- Name two things or people who always make you laugh.
- I like to collect....
- If you could have a face-to-face conversation with anyone, who would it be and why?
- Describe your ideal job.
- Describe your dream vacation.
- If you could strengthen anything about yourself, what would it be?

Exploring Values

- Imagine you are in conflict with a person who is important in your life. What values do you want to help guide your conduct as you try to work out that conflict?
- What is your passion?
- What gives you joy?
- What touches your heart?
- What gives you hope?
- What demonstrates respect?
- What change would you like to see in your community? What can you do to promote that change?
- A time when you acted on your core values even though others were not.

Relating to Curriculum:

- The best/worst thing about this science project is...
- The main character in the book we are reading is like/not like me when...
- These math problems make me feel...

Additional Circle Starters

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| 1. I feel happy when... | 21. Snow makes me feel... |
| 2. I feel sad when... | 22. Fog makes me feel... |
| 3. I feel angry when... | 23. Today I feel... |
| 4. I feel scared when... | 24. If I were an animal, I would be... |
| 5. I feel excited when... | 25. If I were a famous actor/actress, I would be ... |
| 6. I feel stressed when... | 26. If I were a famous athlete, I would be... |
| 7. I feel inspired when... | 27. When I graduate from high school, I want to ... |
| 8. The scariest thing... | 28. When I become an adult, I want to... |
| 9. My favorite hobby... | 29. When I start my career, I want to ... |
| 10. My favorite pet... | 30. I cannot wait until... |
| 11. My favorite food is... | 31. Friends are ... |
| 12. My favorite T.V. show is... | 32. Families are... |
| 13. My favorite weekend activity is... | 33. Appreciations make me feel... |
| 14. My favorite song is... | |
| 15. My favorite sport is... | |
| 16. My favorite color is... | |
| 17. My favorite weather is... | |
| 18. Rain makes me feel... | |
| 19. Wind makes me feel... | |
| 20. Sunshine makes me feel... | |

*Some of this material is adopted from Kristi Cole and Paul Dedinsky's packet of Restorative Justice Practices, Milwaukee Public Schools. Safe Schools/Healthy Students.