

INTRODUCTIONS

Let group members get to know each other in this three stage introduction:

- First round: Group members pair off. Partners introduce each other, perhaps using two or three simple questions, which can be customized for the group:
 - What's your name?
 - Where do you go to school?
 - What do you do for fun?
- Second round: Each pair joins with one other pair; everyone in this new foursome introduces his or her partner from the first round.
- Third round: The entire group regathers, and each member of a foursome introduces another member of his or her foursome to the entire group.

OPEN-ENDED STATEMENTS

You can start every meeting with one of these open-ended statements (or invent other statements of your own):

- Hi, my name is Dirk and my favorite TV show is...
- Hi, my name is Andreas, and the food I think is most disgusting is...
- Hi, my name is Yolanda, and my best moment in the last week was...

Consider theming the week's opening question to the day's discussion; for example, if the group will be exploring some aspect of media, you might use one of these statements:

- My name is Elise, and the magazine I look at most regularly is...
- My name is Martin, and one movie I hated was...

WILD COMPARISONS

Invite group members to take turn completing one or more of these statements:

- If I were an animal, I'd be a...because...
- If I were a plant, I'd be a...because...
- If I were a famous person in history, I'd be...because...
- If I were a food, I'd be...because...
- If I were a natural disaster, I'd be a...because...
- If I were a building, I'd be a...because...

CREATE A MASK

Make available **colored construction paper, scissors** and **colored felt markers**. Invite group members to make one or more masks, for example:

- Create a mask that shows the kind of day you've had.
- Create a mask that shows who you really are inside, the you we rarely get to see.
- Create a mask that shows who you'd like to be, if you could change anything about yourself.

When participants have completed their masks, invite volunteers to show and explain their masks to the group.