



Tools For Trainers

The Lucky Dip Box AN ICE-BREAKER

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Information For Trainers

This is a light-hearted activity—with points to make — probably best for a course lasting more than one day e.g. Induction course and for a group of 8 or more people. Of course, it can also be used for “refresher” sessions or team meetings

KEY POINT 1:

The aim is to encourage people to be willing to accept that change can sometimes be for the better! Or, do they desperately try to get their own item back?

KEY POINT 2:

Do people have pre-conceived notions about who owns what – and therefore about others (even those they think they “know” in general?

KEY POINT 3:

What surprised them during and at the end of the exercise?

Required

The items brought by Delegates (see over)

A large box of some kind



IMPORTANT NOTE

Although this material is © **thevenworks** you are most welcome to copy and use any or all of it throughout your organisation. You can also pass it on to anyone else you wish—in this format—but not in exchange for money—*that's our job!* Thanks. And, any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact us

Description of the activity

- The previous day – ask each Delegate or Meeting Attendee to bring a small personal possession of theirs with them the next day – one that they don't mind others seeing – and it should fit in their hand. Emphasise that they mustn't let anyone else in the course or meeting see it – and that they will get it back!
- Provide a large box – and have each person drop their possession into the box without anyone else seeing it (or sneaking a look in the box!)
- Then, go back to the start of the group. Each individual can then look in the box and pick out any item that is not their own one
- Next, the group are allowed to go around and exchange the item they have for any other that they would prefer (it can be their own one if they want). Delegates are not allowed to identify to others whether they own any particular item
- When everyone has one item – ask them to return them to the box
- Now – list the items on a board – and ask everyone to reach a consensus about the owner of each of them (again – they are not allowed to identify themselves as owner of their item – and can mislead others when their item is up for discussion)
- Finally, put the items back in the box and then each person can retrieve their own item
- See how many of the assumptions about “who owns what” were correct!

