Ship Into Port

Developed in the field by educators affiliated with NSRF.

Task
To have participants get acquainted with each other’s names. Get into port before the other person.

Instructions
1. All participants are in a circle.

2. The facilitator is on the outside of the circle. The facilitator is like a ship out to sea. He or she is seeking to come to land but there is not room to port the ship.

3. The person on the outside of the circle goes around the circle and chooses one person to be “it”. He/she taps the person on the shoulder and shakes his/her hand.

4. When shaking hands, the facilitator says, “Hi, my name is (fill in the blank).” The person tapped says, “Hi, my name is (fill in the blank).” This is repeated three times. Then both people, part ways and go opposite directions on the outside of the circle.

5. When they meet each other they shake hands again and say, “Hi, you must be (fill in the blank),” the other person responds, “Hi, you must be (fill in the blank).” They share this greeting three times and continue on their way around the circle.

6. The first person back to port — the open space (left by the tapped person), moves into port — like a boat. The person, who is last, then continues around the circle and starts the game over again.

Protocols are most powerful and effective when used within an ongoing professional learning community such as a Critical Friends Group® and facilitated by a skilled coach. To learn more about professional learning communities and seminars for new or experienced coaches, please visit the National School Reform Faculty website at www.nsrfharmony.org.