



Go Camp Pro

Engaging Questions & Icebreakers

for Video Staff Meetings & Virtual Camps



Travis Allison

P: 519.532.7366

E: travis@gocamp.pro

Good Beginnings (we LOVE good beginnings and great endings at camp!)

Give people something to do while others are still arriving

- put your favourite dad joke in the comments
- play Eye Spy - type in the comments the weirdest thing you can see that is
 - made of wood
 - the colour blue (or chartreuse - the weirder the colour name the better)
 - glowing
 - breathing
 - upside down
 - shaped like a camp cabin (or the picnic shelter or our water fountain, etc.)
- tell us your favourite camp
 - moment of the day
 - favourite smell
 - song
 - chant/cheer
 - story

Attention Getter / Focus Puller - noise, expression, cheer

- something that people would recognize from your camp
- something that signifies the launch of a meal or a game or an all-camp activity
- some camps may have a bell or a whistle or a signal that goes out over the speakers

Warm-up Question

- tell us your favourite camp
 - moment of the day
 - favourite smell
 - song
 - chant/cheer
 - story

Engaging Questions

- What moment in a camp day most signifies "true camp" to you?
- What is your biggest stress today?
- What are you proud of yourself, your camp for?
- What do you have within reach of you (that you can show us) that truly represents you?
- You+10 years - what do you want to be able to say about your self (in this moment) 10 years from now?
- Show us, on the fingers on one hand, how you're feeling today (1 being worst day ever, 5 best day ever)
- Show us, on the fingers on one hand, how "capable of handling the world" you're feeling today (1 being worst day ever, 5 best day ever)
- Breakout Rooms of 2 or 3 - find one thing in common that might surprise others on the call, and 1 thing on which you are far apart (experiences more than opinions)

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- On your best day ever (take a minute to think)
 - what elements made up that day?
 - How does uncertainty affect you?
 - What's one thing you want to remember (of today) 10 years from now

Deeper Questions

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- How are you taking care of yourself today?
- What part of your shelter-in-place residence have you come to appreciate the most?
- What surprising thing have you been stocking up on (that isn't toilet paper)?
- What's a story – from a book, a movie, an article, a conversation – that you've been gripped by recently? Why did it capture you?
- What habit have you started, or broken, during the quarantine?
- Which specific place in your neighbourhood are you most looking forward to visiting once this is all over?
- What's the easiest part about the quarantine?
- What are some things you have realized that you don't really need?
- What's something you own that feels useful?
- What is your COVID-19 nickname/alter-ego?
- What problem—either yours, or something more global—do you wish you could solve?

Even Deeper

- What's something that you miss that surprises you? What's something that you don't miss that surprises you?
- Which member of your family/ friend group have you been thinking about the most during this time? Why?
- What's the most generous act you've seen recently?
- What's the last thing you experienced that made you laugh, or cry?
- What times of the day or the week are hardest?
- What's giving you hope right now?
- What's the best thing that happened to you today?
- How do you want this experience to change you? How do you think it will?
- What do you hope we all learn or take away from this experience?
- What do you have within reach of you that best illustrates your true self?
- from **Priya Parker's The Art of Gathering Book** "What is a story or experience of your life that changed how you viewed the world?"

Some Favourites from “Rob Walker’s The Art of Noticing” email newsletter

- (put in Chat) What’s one word you would use to describe yourself as a teenager?
- Tell me something about yourself that I could never tell from looking at you.
- If you had to describe how you're feeling right now as a weather pattern, what's your forecast?
- If you had to describe how you're feeling right now as an amusement park ride, what ride are you on?
- What’s the worst prediction you ever made?
- What material are you most like? (E.g., plastic, porcelain, dirt, silk, stone etc.)
- If you weren't doing your current job, what would your dream job be?
- Imagine you could devote a year to researching someone’s biography. Who would your subject be?
- What question do you wish people would ask you?
- Of the places you have lived or spent significant time, which one had the most pleasing view out the front door/main window/etc for you and why?
- What is your earliest memory?
- What is your secret skill?
- If you could own one building, any building, what would it be?
- Tell me about something you love doing that you’re terrible at. And tell me about something you really do not like doing that you’re great at.
- Would you rather be able to speak every language in the world fluently, or be able to play every musical instrument as well as a virtuoso? Why did you pick that?

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- What are you into now that you never thought you would be into? And conversely, what's something you used to be into that you're not anymore?
 - To start such a gathering, have all participants go around the room and describe how they got their names. That gets them talking about their family, puts them in a long-term frame of mind and illustrates that most people share the same essential values.
 - Have you had any unanticipated quarantine-specific cravings for comfort foods (and if so, what)? Have you rediscovered any old passions?

Games:

- **Group Count** ("Our goal is to count to 10 as a group. There can be no cues and no going in order." I can't say "one! now, Sarah Jane goes". If we count out of order or two people say a number at the same time we celebrate our efforts together and start over.)
- **Would You Rather?** (I give you a question with 2 answers as options: you hold up one finger if it's option #1, two fingers if it's option #2)
 - Some seeds of Questions with 2 answers
 - 1. Netflix, 2. Disney +
 - 1. read, 2. watch TV
 - 1. breakfast pizza, 2. cold pizza for breakfast
 - 1. swim in a lake, 2. swim in a pool
 - 1. tie die, 2. making bracelets
- **Pass the Word** (everyone put their thumb over their camera without covering up their screen - you can see what's happening but people can't see you; Leader: hold an imaginary ball in front of you, say the first word you think of and the name of the person you are thinking of, mime passing a ball to them; that person takes thumb off the camera, mimes catching the ball, says their first word and the name of the

person they are “throwing’ to, mimes passing the ball. Go until everyone has uncovered their cameras, ask the last person to throw the ball back to you)

- **Where in the World Is...?** (Everyone choose the Grid View on Zoom. I start by saying “Where in the World is... *name of someone in the room*”; everyone points in the direction of that person in the Grid View - they might be up, down, left or right or diagonal of you; that person goes next with “Where in the World is... *name of someone else in the Zoom room*”). Credit: [Elevate Experiences](#)

See also Michelle Cummings' awesome recent videos

- [Virtual Team Building Ideas](#)
- [More Virtual Team Building Activities](#)
- [Virtual Team Building Activities Part 3](#)