

TIPS FOR CONNECTION AT RALLY JR

Connecting with Gen Alpha in person can sometimes take a little extra intentionality! Many of these kids are used to interacting through screens, so direct, face-to-face conversation might feel intimidating at first. As a Grade Leader, your goal is to be the ultimate icebreaker—helping them feel comfortable, seen, and ready to connect with each other.

Here are some organic, high-energy ways to build community on the fly;

HOW TO CONNECT KIDS WITH EACH OTHER

The "Triangulation" Method; Instead of forcing two kids to make eye contact and talk out of nowhere, connect them over a shared object or activity. Point out a game in the Vibe rotation and say, "Hey, I need two champions to beat this game—you two look like the perfect team!"

Find the Common Denominator; If you find out one kid loves Minecraft or a specific sport, store that fact. When another kid walks up, introduce them using that detail; "Hey Leo, this is Sam—he was just telling me he built a massive castle in Minecraft too!"

The "Secret Handshake" Challenge; Give two kids who are standing near each other a quick mission; "I need you two to invent a secret handshake for our grade before we move to the next room."

ORGANIC CONVERSATION STARTERS

Skip the formal sit-down time and use these prompts while waiting in line, eating pizza, or transitioning between spaces.

- **The Playlist Prompt;** Ask them to help you build a mental playlist. "If we could put any song on the speakers right now to hype up this room, what should it be?"
- **The Style Check;** Compliment their outfits! 2nd–5th graders take a lot of pride in their style. A simple, "Those are some awesome kicks, where did you get them?" goes a long way in breaking the ice.
- **The Superpower;** "If you could have a superpower that helps others, what would it be and why?"
- **The Joy Question;** "What's your favorite thing to do that makes you feel joyful?"

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WOULD YOU RATHER: HIGH ENERGY EDITION

Use these rapid-fire questions to get a whole group talking, laughing, and picking sides. Have them jump to the left or right side of a hallway to cast their vote!

- **The Tech vs. Chores;** "Would you rather spend an afternoon helping a friend with their chores or playing your favorite video game?"
- **The Epic Snack;** "Would you rather eat pizza every day for a year, or never be able to eat pizza again?"
- **The Ultimate Setup;** "Would you rather have a giant inflatable obstacle course in your backyard or a full arcade?"

TEAM UP ON THE GO

You don't need a formal group time to build team spirit! Try these quick challenges;

- **Name Your Squad;** While walking to your next rotation, challenge the kids around you to create a super cool team name.
- **Bring the Hype;** Use the grade cheer that the Kick-Start hosts taught your specific grade to use whenever your grade wins a game or enters a new environment at Rally Jr.