

# GETTING TO KNOW YOU

**Begin with icebreakers to help your team mesh.**

Members of a healthy team know each other well and appreciate both the similarities and differences in the group. In order to help a team mesh, begin with icebreakers and team-building exercises.

## **Icebreaker**

### GAME OF POSSIBILITIES

#### **Break the ice**

- ▶ Gather random objects, one for each person on the staff. Or break the staff into groups and provide an object for each group.
- ▶ Have each student demonstrate a use (either real or imagined) for the object without speaking. Challenge players to make demonstrations original and inventive.
- ▶ The rest of the team must guess what the player is demonstrating.

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### YEARBOOK STUDENT SKILL SETS

- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Time management
- ▶ Working in teams
- ▶ Working with leaders and new co-workers
- ▶ Business management
- ▶ Sales
- ▶ Bookkeeping
- ▶ Interviewing and reporting
- ▶ Journalistic writing
- ▶ Graphic design
- ▶ Photography
- ▶ Digital-file management

## **Icebreaker**

### DO YOU KNOW ME?

#### **Circle up and share**

- ▶ Form a circle with chairs so staffers can see each other's faces and hear every speaker.
- ▶ Begin with a practice round. Flip a coin. If heads, share something new about yourself — something true. If tails, share something untrue, but believable. After you share, prompt the group to discuss and vote true or false. Finally, reveal whether the coin was heads or tails.
- ▶ Have a member of the circle keep track of how often the vote is correct. It's interesting to play this game at a later date and see if the percentage of correct votes increases.
- ▶ Add a fun element by adding technically true statements like, "I graduated with Selena Gomez," indicating you both graduated in 2010.