

Activities at BLOCS Summer Learning Summit

Several of these activities can be facilitated in multiple ways depending on the group. They can be more educational or simply recreational with some teachable moments here and there. If you Google the names of the activities you will find a plethora of sites that have their own spin on the games, but generally the same concepts. For some of the activities I will list a link that describes how to lead them.

Mother Duck

This game is a great icebreaker/energizer that gets the kids mingling and moving! The objective is to find out who Mother Duck is and follow behind them in a single file line as a duckling. Kids are encouraged to act like a duckling by quacking, flapping, and waddling. This game is recommended with larger groups and open spaces for movement.

Process: The facilitator will ask the kids to close their eyes so they can select who will be Mother Duck for that round. Once everyone's eyes are closed the facilitator will tap someone on the shoulder to signify they are Mother Duck. In order for the group to figure out who Mother Duck is they will have to go around to each person and introduce themselves, "Hi I'm Alex, are you Mother Duck?" If they are not Mother Duck they respond with their name and move on to the next person, "Hi I'm Alex, are you Mother Duck?" It is important that Mother Duck introduce themselves by their actual name at first so the group has a few moments to mingle; after a couple introductions they will reveal their identity with a quack! At that point it becomes everyone's goal to fall in line as a duckling and not be the last duck. Be sure to emphasize ducklings cannot cut or push one another. After everyone is in line you can start a new round.

Variation 1: To encourage group discussion you can ask that the last person in line say something about themselves, i.e. favorite food, sports team, hobby, music.

Variation 2: To add more excitement to the mix, you can select a fox at the beginning by tapping twice. Their goal is to try and eat as many ducklings as possible by getting as close to the front. After all the ducks are in the line the fox will reveal who they are; any duckling behind the fox is eaten. This is also good if you need to divide the group up with kids they may not normally pair up with.

Learning Concepts

Imprinting

Prey/Predator relationships

Oh Deer! https://naturebridge.org/sites/default/files/Oh%20Deer_1.pdf

Bat and Moth <http://gen.uga.edu/documents/pest/Bat%20and%20Moth.pdf>

Turtle Hurtle <http://cpw.state.co.us/learn/Pages/ProjectWildTurtleHurdles.aspx>

Tree Factory <https://www.plt.org/educator-tips/teaching-aid-for-tree-factory-activity>