

Mind Mapping/Socio-grams

1. You need large paper (11" X 14") and lots of colored pens or markers. Stickers are nice, but not necessary.
2. The most important thing to remember in this activity is that there is NOT ONE RIGHT WAY to do it.
3. Tell your group they are going to draw a picture, map or graph of the people in their lives closest to them, the people they hang out with, have fun with, get support from.
4. Have them start with their own picture or name shape in the center of the sheet.
5. Now start asking questions. Who are the different groups they are connected with? Have them put a "cloud" or other shape for each of these groups around their picture or name shape. Their groups MIGHT be—
 - Family
 - Friends at school
 - Friends at church, synagogue, temple or mosque
 - Friends in sports
 - Friends in community groups
6. Have them draw lines to connect themselves with the groups.
7. Now have them put the people in those groups around the second layer of clouds. They can use pictures or names, but each one should be in a cloud or shape, connected with a line. People closest to them (that they spend more time with, trust more, like more) should be closer to them.
8. They can use the mind map to show people they don't talk to any more or get along with by drawing a line across their connecting line.
9. Be sure to ask some of these questions as your group is drawing their maps, and after their maps are done. Have them designate people in answering the questions, when it fits.
 - Who are your three best friends?
 - What three people do you most admire?
 - With what three people in this group would you most enjoy going on a picnic.
 - Which three people do you like the least?
 - Rank the individuals from most to least liked.
 - Which groups have the most people?
 - Which people on your map would have different people from yours' on their maps?
 - How much do you like the people in the different groups?
 - Which groups do you think you enjoy spending time in the most?
 - Do you think any of these groups might be "cliques?" Why?
 - How do you feel about your map?
 - How did it make you feel to make it?
 - How do you think you can use it as you make friends?
 - How can it help you make good decisions?
 - What aspect of good character do you think are most important in friendships?
 - If you have friends you don't talk to any more, what do you think could fix that relationship?