



Imagination Games for Connection and Creativity

This is not a....

This game ignites the imagination, engages the body and voice, and generates a lot of laughter. You'll need a stick, water bottle, marker, or similar object for each group of 8-12 people.

- The leader (A) holds the stick (or other object) and says, "This is not a stick, it is a (fill in the blank—comb, for example). They then demonstrate using the stick as a comb, making appropriate motions and sound effects.
- The leader then passes the stick to the person on their left.
- Person B repeats the leader's demonstration of the comb, copying their movement and sound as accurately as possible while saying, "This is not a comb..." Person B then gives the stick another identity, saying "This is a (fill in the blank—say, a pair of scissors). Person B demonstrates the pair of scissors with movement and sound and then passes the stick on to the person to their left.
- Person C, repeats B's demonstration of the pair of scissors copying the sounds and movement as accurately as possible while saying, "This is not a pair of scissors." They then give the stick a new identity and demonstrate the new object in movement and sound. And so, it goes, around the circle.

Tips: Emphasize the importance of using exaggerated movement and a strong sound to demonstrate the object. Encourage participants to copy the person before them as accurately as possible.

Online Tech notes:

- Encourage people to use gallery view and unmute themselves before the game starts
- Ask everyone to have a pen or a small object they can use to represent the object
- Create an order (a list of the participants) and type it into the chat box.
- Using both an action AND a sound for this game is particularly important in an online format, as it heightens the sense of shared space and of having been seen and heard.

"Imagination Games" was the 3rd free workshop in our Creative Catalyst series 2020.

About Partners for Youth Empowerment: We are an international non-profit organization dedicated to unleashing the creative potential of youth. We do this by providing training for adults who work with youth in ways to lead transformative programs for youth that develop social emotional skills, creativity, social engagement, and a sense of purpose. Our proven Creative Empowerment Model combines creative arts practices, experiential learning, and leading-edge facilitation skills into a framework for designing and leading engaging, life changing programs. To

learn about our training offerings or to bring our training to your organization or school either in person or on-line see www.partnersforyouth.org.