

Speed Dating for Democracy

Aim:

To help teachers develop competence for democratic practice through the development of attitudes, skills and knowledge & understandings for democracy.

Expected outcomes:

- Participants will assess their own environment* in terms of mutual understanding, trust, respect, and solidarity, and excellence.
- They will consider how much I, he, she, we, as individuals, can contribute to a more democratic environment*.

*the environment can be of many sorts: classroom, school, university, sports club, training...

Preparation:

- Make sure you have printed all the cards and that you have enough for the number of players/participants. The cards are available in the members section of Learn to Change. You can become a member by clicking [here](#).
- You need enough space for making two rows of participants and to move around comfortably. Alternatively, you can do this activity with the participants standing in two concentric circles.

Procedure:

After an icebreaker or introduction, organise a "speed-dating" activity:

- All the participants line up in 2 rows or stand in 2 concentric circles, facing each other to form pairs.
- Each pair receives a different card
- Participants discuss with their partners what they already do in their practice to, for example, 'manage discipline' through cooperation.
- They also exchange ideas about what else can be done to develop the attitude, skill or knowledge/understanding referred to on the card.
- After 2 minutes with a partner, the row (or concentric circle) moves and everyone will be talking to a new partner about a new card for the next 2 minutes.
- Repeat, allowing participants to talk to as many different partners within the time available.
- Debrief.

L2C will soon produce cards for democracy that apply to other settings than educational ones. The activity will then be adapted for environments such as a political party, association, neighbourhood organisation, informal groups of friends or neighbours or what have you. Join us!