



Stop The Bus

Description

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Students work together to brainstorm answers to each alphabet category in this fast-paced activity.

Supplies

- Paper
- Pencils/markers

How to Play

1. Divide students into teams. The number of students on each team will depend on the group dynamics.
2. Give each team a writing utensil and a piece of paper.
3. Have students write at the top of the paper as a header: name, animal, food/drink, place.
4. For each round pick one student to “run the bus” and one student to “stop the bus”.
5. Explain to students that running the bus means the assigned student silently says the alphabet in their head while everyone runs in place, and that stopping the bus means the assigned student yells, ‘stop the bus’ and then everyone freezes in place.
6. When the student says, ‘stop the bus’ the “run the bus” student announces out loud what letter they were on.
7. Each team must try to fill in the categories on their paper, starting with the letter that was announced.
8. At the end of 30 seconds any team with all categories answered receives 5 points.
9. This continues until time is up.

Activity Prompts for Reflection

- What was difficult to control about this activity?
- How were you able to stay calm during this activity?
- In what ways did your team work together during this activity?
- What would you do differently if you could do this activity again?

Other Ways to Play

- Instead of having students work in teams, have students each work independently with their own paper.
- Use a spinner like this [one](#), to put the alphabet on and spin it each time.
- Have an alphabet printed out on several pieces of paper and for each round have one student throw a bean bag and whichever letter it lands on is the letter for that round.

Additional Notes

- Use the [SEL Activity Prompts](#) to tie other SEL competencies to this activity.

Category

1. Activities
2. Self-Management

Sel-competency

1. Self-Management

Allotted-time

1. 20 minutes

Themes

1. Work Together-Teamwork