

Passport Control

"Passport Control" is a collection of icebreakers meant to be used on the opening day of camp. The game is a themed event based on the imagined premise that passport details must be gathered. This event can be advertised with some mystery ("Report to Passport Control at 1915 in front of the club" and so forth) and can be led with mock seriousness.

Five small events make up the larger event, each based on a component of a typical passport. The events can be held in any succession, but the suggested order does have some continuity to it.

Signature

Note: For this event everyone will need a pen/pencil and a piece of paper. This needs to be pre-announced.

Sample instructions: We need to collect the signatures of every person at camp. But instead of having you stand in a long line, I'd like **you** to do the work for me. At the whistle, each of you will have to try and see who can gather the most *different* signatures (no duplicates). When the whistle blows the second time stop collecting signatures and begin counting the number of signatures you have gathered.

Note: This is an event for which the winner can be given a prize (perhaps presented at chapel or another gathering). Suggested prizes include a new pen or a notepad.

Place of Birth

Sample instructions: We need to determine where you people came from. In order to do this we having created a large (albeit *imaginary*) map. With this being north...south...east...west (point out the directions), you need to complete the map. At the whistle, everyone needs to find others from the same city of birth (or nearest large city) and stand in the place where the city would properly be located on the map (demonstrate the proper locations of several notable cities). Once everyone is in place, stay in place while I ask for your city name...then *shout it out!*

Date of Birth

Sample instructions: In order to gather the data regarding your dates of birth, we need to minimize the number of different dates to record. At the whistle, please find someone who is born on the same *day of the month* as you (year or birth does not matter). If you cannot find someone who is born on the same exact day, then find someone who was born a day before or after your own (or within a few days of yours).

Name

Sample instructions: We need to find out how many Sasha's and Natasha's we have here. To help us count (and since we obviously like to count as little as possible), at the whistle find at least two other people who share either the same name or *beginning* of your name. For example, Natasha can get together with both another Natasha and a Nastya. Likewise, Sasha could get together with another Sasha or a Sergei.

Photo

Note: for this event having a camera with 6-8 available pictures to take is an asset. This activity creates fun small group photos that you will likely want to keep!

Sample instructions: We need new passport photos for all of you, but since we don't have enough film to take pictures of all of you *individually*, we will be taking composite photos. In order to take proper composites, you will need to divide yourself into groups according to *similar looks*. This means the girls with blonde hair will have to get together, and from there divide themselves into blondes with short hair and blondes with long hair. Likewise, the rest of the groups do the same (guys with black hair form a group, girls with brown hair, guys with blonde hair, and so on). Once smaller groups of like-looking people have been formed, choose **one** person from each group to be the *representative* (composite) for your group. When the groups are ready, I will be coming to you to take your group photo. For the picture place your representative in the centre of the group with the rest of you pointing to him or her in a creative way.

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