

Conducting A “Get to Know You” Interview Using the Step-by-Step Communicator*

This is a great beginning of the year activity. Have your student pick a person who they are not familiar with to conduct the interview (e.g. other students, teachers, principal, secretary, custodian, bus driver).



Step One

Contact the person to see if they are willing to be interviewed. Use messages on the Step-by-Step, such as:

- Excuse me, do you have a minute?
- I would like to do an interview with you to get to know you better. Is that okay?
- When would be a good time for you?
- Thanks, this will be fun!

Step Two

Before doing the interview, pre-determine the questions to ask, such as:

- What is your name? Or, what is your middle name?
- Tell me about your family.
- What do you like to do in your spare time?
- What do you like best about your job/school?
- What is your favourite colour?
- Do you have a pet?
- What are your favourite foods?
- Name someone you admire and why?

Finish the sequence by putting on a “thank-you” message.

Step Three

Conduct the interview.

The student could also be using a tape recorder and switch to record the interviewee’s responses, so that they can be played later to the rest of the class or to family members. If that is too cumbersome, the activity could be done by two students, one to ask the questions using the Step-by-Step, and the other to operate the tape recorder.

Other Interview Ideas

- Interviewing grandparents about their childhood
- Interviewing people about their various occupations.
- Interviewing participants for a newspaper or newsletter article.
- Conducting an opinion poll.

Other Adaptions

This activity can also be reversed to that the student becomes the interviewee. The answers to the questions can be pre-programmed.

The activity can also be adapted to asking questions requiring a yes/no response that can be completed without the use of any technical device (i.e., use the student's method of responding yes/no).

*Adapted from www.adaptivation.com