#NCSconnects Virtual Activity

Activity: Common Ground

Category: Adapted Virtual Learning

Suggested Grade Level: Grades 7-12

Description: This group game is designed to help you think creatively and get to know one another. It may be played with any number of people either in person (with appropriate social distancing) or virtually.

Supplies:
- Paper
- Pens or pencils

Instructions:
1. Split into four smaller groups and stand in four different corners or areas. If playing virtually, each person will simply be at their own home.
2. Ask each group to list as many things as possible that members of the group have in common. Be creative!
3. Allow 10 minutes for large groups or 4-5 minutes for smaller groups (fewer than 12 people).
4. When time is up, point to a group to quickly name one thing all members have in common. Continue rapidly around the room, giving each group three seconds to name another common trait.
5. A group is out if they take longer than three seconds, repeat something another group has already said, or can’t think of anything to say.
6. Ask each group to count the number of things they have in common.

Takeaways: What was your group’s strategy to determine the longest list? Did you find you had more in common than you thought you might? Why or why not? How do we often stereotype people before trying to find common ground? In what ways can you learn about what people are really like?