

Penguins

Ice breakers can seem like pointless distractions or an uncomfortable delay! However, it's useful to get a school council to relax, breakdown some of the artificial age barriers that can exist in school and mark a transition in culture and thinking. There are many books and websites with great ideas. One of our favorite ideas is 'Penguins'.

Materials:

- None

How:

Stand in a circle or wherever there is space. Penguins have to get to the sea and they walk by patting their hands on their thighs.

On the journey they encounter obstacles:

“Little bear!” everyone points and says “aarrhh”.

“Big bear!” everyone screams.

“Little rock!” everyone does a little jump.

“Big rock!” everyone does a big jump.

“Tree, jump right!”

“Tree, jump left”

After shouting out various combinations finish with “jump in the sea!” Splash!

The point is that like penguins, a school council can make decisions that have a lot of obstacles and distractions before you get to where you want to be!

Adaptations:

- The game can be developed with suggestions such as:
 - “Low bridge!”
 - “Music!”
 - “Hunter!” etc
- The game can also be adapted to be played sitting round a table.