

Language Walk



This activity will consist of pairs or small groups working together, exploring their property or neighborhood, and sharing each other's languages. This activity will invite understanding between individuals with language barriers and provide deeper connection between residents.

You will need:

An area for residents to explore together or a selection of objects to use if mobility is limited. This would be a great way to get residents outside and into their neighborhoods or parks, if possible.

Instructions:

1. Divide participants into either pairs or small groups.
2. Begin with introductions and teaching simple phrases like, "Hello." and "My name is..." in the language of the other participants.
3. For example, if one participant knows English and the other knows Spanish, begin with the Spanish speaker teaching "Hola." and "Me llamo.."
4. Then teach a simple question like, "How do you say... in Spanish." ("Como se dice...en español?")
5. Head outside or around the building. Have one participant ask how to say certain objects and point to them to help indicate what they are talking about. The other participant will respond in their language.
6. Partners can alternate after a time if desired.
7. Encourage the participants to practice what they learned with their partners after the walk.
8. Repeat as often as desired.

Physical Distancing Adaptations:

1. Participants can gather in their doorways or virtually with video calls.
2. Images/flashcards can be used to replace walking together.