

Resident-to-Resident Connection



This activity will pair residents together and have them connect to each other in one of three ways: Calling on the phone, writing letters, or drawing comics/illustrations. This will promote sharing of their lives and stories. Interest will need to be gathered ahead of time for this project.

Instructions:

1. Share the Information Flyer virtually or by printing and placing around the property to gather interest.
2. Create a list of willing participants and the language(s) that they speak/write.
3. Match resident's randomly as long as they speak/write the same language.
4. If residents do not speak or write the same language, they can use comics and illustrations to tell stories to each other. This can be a fun challenge for those that share a language as well. Artistic skill level doesn't matter, only that they do their best to convey a story. See resources for more information.
5. Encourage participants to include a photo of themselves in the first exchange.
6. Share a set schedule for residents and then exchange letters or make phone calls. This can be set up between individuals or maintained by someone else.
7. See resources section for possible prompts to share with participants.

You will need:

1. A list of interested residents and what language they speak/write.
2. Information Flyer PDF
3. A spreadsheet or schedule to track when letters are picked up and dropped off (optional)

Physical Distancing Adaptations:

1. This can easily be done during physical distancing times by having participants drop off letters at the doors of the other. Or an employee can pick up and distribute letters under stricter distancing restrictions.
2. If technology is available, residents may video chat the other for more personal connections.

Resources

1. Comic Drawing Tutorial: <https://medium.com/@chazhutton/how-to-draw-comics-when-you-cant-actually-draw-dd0b8b684562>
2. Read Shaun Tan's *The Arrival* for an example of a comic book without words.
3. Letter/Comic Prompts: What can you see from your window each day? Where did you grow up? What is your earliest memory? Where does your favorite animal live in the wild? What is your favorite food or meal? What country does it originate from? Is it a family recipe? Where is the favorite place that you have visited? Who were you with? How did that place make you feel?

Sign up today for a

Community Pen Pal



Make a phone call or video chat, write a letter, or draw out a story without using words for a challenge. Introduce yourself in the first call/letter and tell your pen pal a little bit about yourself. You may ask a question at the end of each letter to help guide topics.

