

Activity name: King of the Hill

Purpose: To encourage quizzers to compete against each other to get the top spots in a room.

Number of quizzers required: Anywhere from 3 to 30 quizzers

Number of rooms required: Recommend 1 room for every 6-8 quizzers

Time required: 30 – 45 minutes

Outline of activity: Place quizzers in a line on quiz seats. The quizzer on the left is in the king or queen seat and the quizzer on the right is in the lowest seat. I typically arrange quizzers so that the weaker quizzers are on the left and the stronger quizzers are on the right in the lowest seats. The goal of quizzers is to take over the king or queen seat. If splitting up into multiple rooms then I tend to group quizzers in rooms based on their quizzing ability.

If a quizzer jumps and answers a question correctly then they get to move up two chairs with the quizzers ahead of them moving down. If a quizzer answers a question incorrectly then they move down a chair. Quizzers are given a limit on the number of questions they can answer in a round (correct or incorrect). I usually place a limit of 6-7 questions per quizzer depending on the number of quizzers in a room. This forces quizzers to strategically use their jumps.

Quizzers are sometimes given funny hats to wear if they are in one of the top seats in a room to designate them as king or queen. At the end of the designated practice time those quizzers in the top 3 seats receive a candy bar.

Variations: Have the quizzer roll a dice after a quizzer answers a question correctly. If the dice roll is a 1 or 2 the quizzer moves up one seat. If the dice roll is a 3 or 4 the quizzer moves up two seats. If the dice roll is a 5 or 6 the quizzer moves up three seats. This provides some randomness and fun to the activity.

If there are multiple rooms, start out with stronger quizzers in the lowest room and weaker quizzers in the highest room. Then see if quizzers can work their way through multiple rooms in the allotted time. If a quizzer answers a question in the king seat in one room then they get to replace the lowest quizzer in the highest room.

Observations: This activity is good for having quizzers of similar ability quiz against each other. The limit on the number of questions is designed to prevent one or two quizzers from getting all the jumps in an activity. However, It is also an activity that can be done with a smaller number of quizzers.