

CLOSURE IDEAS

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CLOSURE IDEAS

"In the Spotlight"

Closure Ideas Associated with Technology

- Government/community/staff tape (audio)
- Government/community/staff tape (video)
- Framed pictures
- Laminated color copy of a photo/collage
- Picture collage of various government/community/staff events and people
- Slide show
- Computer generated photos
- Email address list
- Government/community/staff picture screen saver
- Government/community/staff picture floor poster
- Tape record voices/spoken memories on audio tape
- PowerPoint show

Just for Me

Closure Ideas on an Individual Level

- Predictions: 5, 10, 15 years from now (roommate predictions, too)
- Government/community/staff picture
- Roommate picture
- Frame a collage of magazine clippings unique to each individual
- Audio tape (tribute to the person)
- RAs first impressions of each resident - letter to each
- Page with the person's name on it -- passed around for each to contribute to
- Fimo key chain -- from RA to resident
- Secret pals
- Bags for gifts
- Program flyers
- Acronyms
- Quotes from each resident, copied/duplicated to bundle together
- Cup of Essence
- First impressions
- Bad Day Letter
- Sunshine Bottle

Closure Fashion

Wearable Closure Ideas

- T-shirts (ordered or homemade -- tie dye, puff paints, etcetera)
- Hats -- die, puff paint
- Beaded necklaces, bracelet...
- Key chains made with fimo
- Sweatshirts (ordered or homemade -- tie dye, puff paints, etcetera)
- Anything you can wear that can be decorated

One for All

Closure Ideas for a Group

- Scrapbook
- Yearbook
- Puzzle
- Pictures -- matte decorating
- Story with names
- Stationary
- Addresses
- Government/community/staff shirts
- Sun Catchers -- glass, mug etching
- Pillow case
- Personals/newspaper
- Personal message book
- Fabric Wreath
- Time Capsule
- Picture calendar
- Autograph books/pages
- Wishes
- Most Likely To...
- Awards for your Government/community/staff
 - Most likely to...
 - Best...
 - ...ist (fastest)
 - Famous for...
 - Funny for...
 - Predictions
 - Trophies
 - Make ribbons
 - Certificates

Developmental Challenges

Closure related to Development (see addendum for specific program instructions)

- Remember when
- Appreciation Circle
- Wonderful Circle
- Regrets
- Joys, Heroes, Sorrows, Villains
- Web
- Trust Walk
- True Confessions
- Amnesia

Let's Get Outta Here

Closure Ideas Away from Campus

- Silver Creek Falls
- Detroit Lake
- Trip to the Park for Picnic
- Kid games (hopscotch, etc.)
- Dancing, even in the Grove
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Volleyball
- Barbecue/potluck
- Fishing/camping/hiking
- Star gazing
- Bike trip
- Cosmic Bowling
- Trip to the batting cage
- Paintball
- Alpine slide
- Miniature golf
- Rollerskating
- Softball
- Scavenger hunt
- Road trip
- Beach trip
- Enchanted Forest
- Portland Saturday Market
- Zoo
- Aquarium
- Omsi
- Go to the movies
- Restaurant for special dinner/dessert
- Progressive dinner/dessert

Developmental Challenges

Closure Related to Development

- . Remember When
- . Wonderful Circle
 - . Regrets
- . Joys, Heroes, Sorrows, Villains
 - . Web
 - . Trust Walk
- . Memorial Garden
- . Time Capsule
 - . Amnesia
- . Create a Scrapbook
- . T-shirt Signing Party
 - . Memory Board
 - . Touchstones

Remember When...

Each member of the group writes on their paper, “Remember when...” and their name. They can decorate the paper any way they wish. The papers are passed around the group until everyone has had a chance to complete the “remember when” statement. It is an opportunity for members to write about memories they’ve had with people. It is a good way to recap a term, a month, or a whole year

Wonderful Circle

Participants gather in a circle and place their arms around each other’s shoulders. The tightly formed group then moves slowly in one direction.

As people want to say something special about the group, the experience over the year, someone in particular, a great memory, or anything at all related to the group, they say “stop!” The group then stops and the person says what they want to say.

When they are finished, they say “go!” and the wonderful circle turns again until someone else says stop.

This continues until someone says “are we finished?” If the group agrees, the circle is broken and the activity ends.

Regrets

Just as the name implies, the group gets together and discloses to each other regrets they have had. To make it more positive, end the game with the “web” where the group stands in a circle. A person starts, holding a ball of string, looks at someone and says something positive about them from the year that is meant to help them feel better about any regrets they may have. When they have finished, they throw the ball of string to the person they just spoke about. That person then does the same.

With a disclosure activity such as this one, it is important to highlight that confidentiality is imperative.

Heroes, Villains, Sorrows, Joys

This is a chance for group members to explain to the group who or what has been their heroes, joys, sorrows, or villains for the year.

Group members can put anything or anyone into the categories. It is a great way to put closure on the year.

A tip for large groups, give people a time limit...otherwise it can drag on for a long time.

Another tip is to make sure that people leave their “villains” nameless in case it turns out to be a person that anyone in the group actually knows.

Memorial Garden

You walk past the time capsule and into the (Name of Community) Memorial Garden where you see statues, plaques, and monuments. All of these items seem to represent a person from previous communities. The Garden is full of many very different memorials, some of them odd, some of them conventional...but all of them meaningful and poignant.

Eventually, the group comes to a large open and empty space with a sign reading "(Community Name) - (year) e.g. First Henkle, 2001." You realize this is the place for us to create our own Memorial Garden for each other.

You are asked to think of the individuals within the community and decide on what you would place there as a memorial to him or her. Each person has a memorial to each person in the group. Your memorial should reflect what gifts that person has given to the individual and the group and it should reflect the significance that person has held for the person making the memorial.

In very large groups or communities, you might try things that will keep the program short, such as limiting each person to a minute to describe all their memories, or assigning people to do memorials of one or two other people rather than of everyone.

Amnesia

This is an excellent way to put closure on a year. The process begins when one person in the group asks to be told about his or her year. The other members of the group tell that person the significant events that occurred to that person. They can be positive, stressful, challenging, etcetera, times. For example, "You wrote your thesis this term, your floor had a fire on it, and you were elected to the Student Senate for next year." Each member of the group has an opportunity to have "amnesia" and allow the group to tell him or her what happened to them. Group members are also given the chance to add events if they were not mentioned.

Throw a **"Create A Scrap Book"** night and you supply the Polaroid Camera and film. Make scrap books of the year and encourage residents to bring their favorite pictures of the past year.

Have a **T-shirt signing party**. Have residents bring their favorite plain color t-shirt and you supply the sharpie markers. Residents can comment and sign everyone's t-shirts.

Create a **Memory Board**. Make your May bulletin board into a graffiti board where residents can leave their summer address and their best memories of the last year for the floor.

From reslife.net

TOUCHSTONES:

This activity is best done at the end of a group experience. All participants are asked to chose a touchstone (marble or rock if location permits) from a jar, bag, etc. The facilitator then reads the following and gives all participants a copy to take with them to remember their experience:

We all came here as individuals, bringing our own personal styles and characteristics. We have each given a part of ourselves to the group. This is what being an individual is all about. We have learned about others and also about ourselves. We all are unique pieces of the puzzle, with our own thoughts, ideas, beliefs, and dreams. We are valuable because of this and what we have to offer to others.

No one else is exactly like us. We need to look in at ourselves, see who we are and recognize our potential. We have the ability to accomplish whatever we start out to do. Know that we have no limits and only we can make things happen.

I want you to take all you have experienced here and keep it with you. These Touchstones represent the experience we have shared together. Take one, look at it, and remember who you are. Each stone is different - as each of us is our own person. But, they are similar too - each with hopes, desires, and ambitions. Dig deep inside and always have the courage to be yourself. You are a wonderful individual just as you are.

Keep this Touchstone and know the power and energy you feel here will always be within you. Do not forfeit your potential to fulfill all you set out to do. Listen to the voice inside you, think about all there is for you to accomplish, and challenge yourself to do it. Go on....the power lies within.

(Adapted from Springfield College)