



## Facilitators Guide – Connections and Idea Sharing

The connection activity is all about helping people from different churches to meet each other and share practical ideas with others serving in similar ministry areas. There are four parts to this activity. Use as many of them as you have time for.

### Resources:

- Print the “12 square” pages 1 per participant
- A pen/texta for each participant
- Print the 4 posters (A3 if possible) for brainstorming ideas to share

### Setting Up Your Space

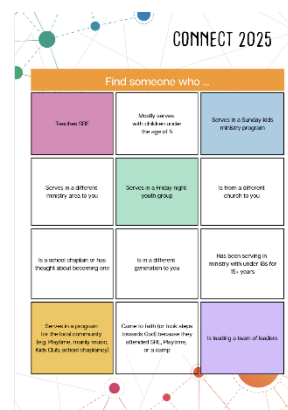
- You will need space for people to mingle around the room and 4 distinct spots for the 4 brainstorming posters

### OUTLINE (20 -30MINUTES)

#### Part 1: (5 mins)

Hand out a copy of the grid and a pen to each person. Explain that the first person to collect a name in each box (or, the person who has the most boxes filled after four minutes) wins the game.

*Tip: Tweak the rules depending on how many people are meeting at your location. If you have lots of people, you might say that there needs to be a different name in each box. If you are at a smaller location, you might challenge people to include as many different names as possible.*



#### Part 2 (3 mins)

Once the game has been played, announce the winner who was able to get all 12 squares filled, and spend a few minutes (don't let this section go too long so there's more time for conversation) highlighting a few of the answers. For example:

- Who has served in ministry with under 18's for 15+ years? Who here has served with those under 18 for the longest?
- Who came to faith (or took steps towards God) because they attended SRE, Playtime, or a church camp? Can one or two people briefly share about that experience?
- How many churches do we have represented here today? Call them out.

#### Part 3 (1 min)

Invite people to form five groups, depending on which of the coloured boxes they **COULD** have signed. They should form five groups (pink, blue, green, purple, yellow). Anyone who could have signed multiple boxes can choose which group they'd like to go to.

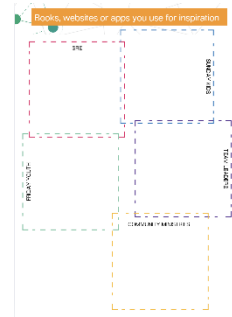
#### Part 4 (10+ min)

Invite groups to rotate between stations to share ideas around 5 topics. Explain that they will only have a few minutes at each station, so this is a quick brainstorming session. Not everyone has to share at every station. At each station, the group can write 2 or 3 ideas on the poster.

*Tip: If the groups are large, they can group further into huddles of 4-5 people, but make sure each group has people from a mix of churches.*

The posters will be titled:

- Books, websites or apps you use for inspiration
- Games, icebreakers or activities that you love
- Strategies to increase engagement engage with a talk or bible story
- Ways you connect and communicate with parents
- Training you have done or are searching for



Let groups know when it's time to rotate to a different station. Wrap up by explaining that the posters will be up for the rest of the event, and everyone is welcome to come and glean some more ideas!

# CONNECT 2025

## Find someone who ...

Teaches SRE	Mostly serves with children under the age of 5	Serves in a Sunday kids ministry program
Serves in a different ministry area to you	Serves in a Friday night youth group	Is from a different church to you
Is a school chaplain or has thought about becoming one	Is in a different generation to you	Has been serving in ministry with under 18s for 15+ years
Serves in a program for the local community (e.g. Playtime, mainly music, Kids Club, school chaplaincy)	Came to faith (or took steps towards God) because they attended SRE, Playtime, or a camp	Is leading a team of leaders

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# Books, websites or apps you use for inspiration

SRE

SUNDAY KIDS

FRIDAY YOUTH

TEAM LEADERS

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

# Games, icebreakers or activities that you love

SRE

SUNDAY KIDS

FRIDAY YOUTH

TEAM LEADERS

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

# Strategies to increase engagement in talks/stories

SRE

SUNDAY KIDS

FRIDAY YOUTH

TEAM LEADERS

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

# Ways you connect & communicate with parents

SRE

SUNDAY KIDS

FRIDAY YOUTH

TEAM LEADERS

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES

# Training you recommend or are searching for

SRE

SUNDAY KIDS

FRIDAY YOUTH

TEAM LEADERS

COMMUNITY MINISTRIES