Easy Initiations/ “Ice Breakers”

• **Communication Circles** ➔ Based on speed dating, in this activity students are given the opportunity to meet several members of the class in a brief amount of time. It is recommended that you create two circles of chairs so that the inner and outer circles are facing each other. You can create prescribed questions or just let students converse. Every few minutes, tell students in the outer circle to move down one chair and begin their next conversation. Following the conversation, you can ask students in one circle to pick a student from the opposite circle to introduce to the class and visa versa.

• **The Question Shuffle** ➔ As soon as students enter the room, have them write down one question they would like to know about someone else in the class. Have them approach one another, ask & answer their questions, trade slips of paper, and mill about the room to ask other people their new questions, REPEAT…

• **Where Ya From?** ➔ Have students go around and tell their hometown and what their hometown is known for.

• **Two Truths & A Lie** ➔ Have everyone write down two things that are true about themselves and one that is not. Each student reads their list aloud and others are left to guess which is the lie.

• **Highs/Lows** ➔ Allow a few minutes at the start of class for students to share their highs/lows of the week.

• **One word** ➔ Ask everyone to go around the circle and share one word that describes how their day or week has been. Explaining their word choice is optional. This activity encourages students to practice emotional intelligence and also is helpful in determining if someone is going through a difficulty period and might need some checking in on.

• **What Comes Next?** ➔ “The word is ‘orange’. What is the next word?” Have students continue to guess until they figure out the pattern (the pattern is that the next word always starts with the last letter of the previous word).