

A Penny for Your Thoughts (Icebreaker)

Objective: To allow a new group to begin to get acquainted with one another.

Context: “Sometimes a new look at the most familiar of objects or situations brings us to new awareness. (This may link into the theme of your meeting/event/workshop). Today we’re going to look at pennies.”

Procedure:

1. Distribute the smallest-possible coins of the country in which you’re working to each of the participants (e.g. pennies).
2. Ask participants to look at the date on the coin they have received and remember one event in their lives that happened in that year.
3. Now ask them to stand up, mingle and connect with at least 3 others in the group, sharing their events.

Give about 10 minutes.

When participants are finished:

- A. Raise your hand if you were able to link with more than 3 others.
- B. What was one interesting thing you heard from a fellow participant?
- C. Who is someone you’d like to work with further today?

Collect the coins for next time.