

## Ce-LEI-brate the Yes!

**Activity Description:** Participants experience the challenge of choosing to remain positive, even when others around them try to get them to be negative.

**Group Size:** Whole group

**Time Frame:** 30 minutes

**Objectives:** The students will be able to:

- 1 Develop questions they believe will necessitate a negative response.
- 2 Analyze questions from peers & determine and deliver a positive response.
- 3 Conduct themselves honestly and respectfully at all times.

**Multiple Intelligence(s) Addressed:**

Bodily-Kinesthetic, Interpersonal, Intrapersonal, Verbal-Linguistic

**Standard(s) Addressed:** Positive self-talk

**Materials:** One Hawaiian lei for each participant

**Directions:**

- 1 Before the activity begins, share the activity objective and instructions.
- 2 Object:
  - a Students must collect as many leis as possible from other participants by asking questions that seem to require a negative response. The person with the most leis around his/her neck after the allocated period of time wins the game.
- 3 Instructions:
  - a Participants will walk freely around the room asking questions to each other.
  - b If someone (Player A) asks a question to another (Player B) and Player B responds with a negative answer, the participant B forfeits his/her lei to Player A. Player A then places the lei around his/her own neck and proceeds with the activity. If Player B answers in a positive way, both A and B keep their leis. The only way a player earns a lei is if a player asks a question and the receiver answers in a negative way.
  - c Players may only ask other players one question at a time. Depending on the size of the group, this rule may be lifted after everyone has cycled through each other.
  - d Players must answer questions truthfully. If they catch themselves telling a fib, then they can immediately admit it and hand over their lei.
  - e Players must say something in response to each question. They may not simply stare at the other player.



- f Players may not answer any question in an ambiguous way (i.e. “Maybe”, “I Might”, “Good Question”, etc.)
  - g Once a player loses his/her lei, he/she is never eliminated from the game. He/She must simply continue playing by approaching and asking a question of a person who still has a lei around his/her neck.
  - h If Player A asks Player B a question and Player B answers in a negative way, Player B forfeits all of the leis he/she has accumulated--not just one lei, but the entire collection.
  - i Players must refrain from asking any questions that may be considered offensive to another player.
- 4 Take time to model and provide examples of acceptable questions/responses.
    - a Example acceptable questions (let’s assume all answers are no):
      - i Do you have any brothers and sisters?
      - ii Isn’t this game strange?
      - iii Do I have something on my face?
    - b Example acceptable responses (in the positive)
      - i “Yes, all human beings are my brothers and sisters.”
      - ii “Yes, this game is strange, and that’s what makes it wonderful.”
      - iii “Yes, you have a nose, eyes, and mouth on your face.”
  - 5 Distribute one lei to each student. Give them between 7-10 minutes to participate in the activity with classmates.
  - 6 At the end of the time period, gather students in a circle for processing. Have each student keep his/her accumulated leis on for the discussion.

### **Processing Questions:**

- 1 What was this experience like for you? Was it difficult? If so, why?
- 2 What were some strategies you used to remain positive not only with your responses but when you may or may not have earned a lei?
- 3 Think of a time in your life when it was important to stay positive even though you may have felt the odds were stacked against you or that you were surrounded by negativity?
- 4 What makes it difficult to think positive thoughts? How do you overcome these obstacles to positive thought?
- 5 Those who accumulated the most leis were often targeted. Does this happen in our lives? Are those who are positive on a regular basis targeted by others? If so, why?
- 6 Why is this activity important? Why did we do this?
- 7 How will this activity help you in the future? What will you remember from this activity?

