Pass the Questions Game

This game is intended to be played like pass the parcel. Make up one or two large parcels with several layers of paper. In each layer, place a small gift or sweet to increase the incentive to answer the question rather than pass the question. At the centre of the parcel, place a small prize. Get some suitable music appropriate to the participants who will be playing the game.

Choose your music carefully. Some older people like to listen to kids nursery rhymes but others will be offended by this. Some like music from when they were younger and some like modern music. Often the right music can trigger a spontaneous sing-along session. If this happens, take more time between stopping the music and let them have fun. If in any doubt about what music to use, ask the participants what they like rather than assuming that you know.

Explain the rules. The parcel will pass round the group while the music is playing. When the music stops, whoever is holding the parcel will be asked a question from the list. If they do not want to answer it, they can pass the question on to the next person, but the unopened parcel has to go with the question. Only the person who answers the question to the satisfaction of the facilitator is allowed to tear off a layer of the parcel and find a prize. Have several parcels available in case the game is zipping along too quickly.

As an alternative, for every correct answer, you can provide a token. When participants have gained three tokens, they can redeem them for a prize and then drop out of the game. If they forego the prize, they can stay in the game but must give up their tokens and start again.

Another alternative is to try out the game like musical chairs. This only works where participants are all mobile enough, so check this out first. Instead of the parcels, they play musical chairs and when 'out' they have to answer a question to stay in the game.

You can add your own questions to the list provided. The answers provided here with these questions are only for guidance. You can provide your own, but do not forget the humour when you are playing this game. Humour is fundamental to learning through having fun.

Questions for 'Pass the Questions'

How many people are in this room?

Can you be arrested by a police officer who is not wearing a hat? (Yes.)

How many players are in a football team? (11.)

A distressed woman with a crying baby knocks at your door and asks for help. The child has a head wound. What should you do? (Be very careful, do not let them in, phone for assistance, and pull your alarm cord.)

A disabled neighbour tells you that their carer is hitting them and keeping some of their pension. What can you do? (Talk to someone to get advice for the neighbour. Do not keep it to yourself.)

Should you tackle a burglar in your house who is raking through your smalls? (No, get out and call the police)

A child comes to your door and asks you to sponsor them in a charity walk. What should you do? (Be careful and do not give any money.)

How many emergency services are there? (Police, Ambulance, Fire & Rescue Services and Coastguard = 4.)

What do Community Safety Wardens do? (Gather information, help make the community a safer place to live in, report crime to the police.)

Name the Chief Constable in this area. (Find out who in your own area before playing this game.)

Are senior citizens at risk from young people? (Not generally.)

Can you be arrested for not reporting a crime? (No, but do consider reporting any crimes, anonymously if preferred. Exceptions are terrorism and treason, which you must report.)

What can you do if a person on the bus touches your bum? (Tell the bus driver, tell the police.)

Are candles a good way of saving on the electric bill? (No, they are a fire hazard.)

You see a drunken neighbour get into their car and drive off. What can you do? (Phone the police or Crimestoppers and report it.)

What do you think would prevent young people committing crimes? (See how many ideas folk can come up with.)

The dog next door escapes and bites you. The owner threatens that if you tell, he will break your windows. What can you do? (Call the police, call a friend for advice. Do not give in to the threats.)

The woman next door to you is constantly being beaten up by her partner, what can you do? (You could phone the police and report what you see and hear or you could tell her about Women's Aid.)

Your young granddaughter has asked you to keep a secret and tells you she has met a boy on the Internet? What can you do? (Tell her parents.)

Who won the Second World War? (Us.)

Is it safe to switch a light on if you smell gas? (No, you might explode.)

Do you need a licence to drive a motorised wheelchair scooter? (No, but there is a competency test)

What is black and white and read all over? (A newspaper or squashed penguin.)

Who lost the Second World War? (Them.)

What would make you feel safer? (Think of as many things as you can.)

What could you do if there is a noisy group of people meeting near your house? (You could complain to them, call the council or call the police.)

What is the safest thing to do if your house catches fire? (Get out and call the fire services.)

What can you do if you cannot afford your electricity bills? (Speak to someone you trust and ask for advice. Citizens Advice might help.)

What can you do if you slip and fall in the house? (Get a doctor, pull your alarm cord.)