

AMBASSADOR PROGRAM

GETTING STARTED

This is a sampling of ideas on how to begin and *not* a set of strict guidelines. As an RJ Ambassador, you know what will work for the folks in your group best. Remember, the point is to build intentional community - when and how you meet up to is up to y'all!

Tips:

- Develop group norms or allow space for people to voice what their learning/general goals are.
- If your group has people who don't know each other, allow time to introduce yourselves!
- If your group would like to more frequently, establish a regular time to meet.

Gathering suggestions:

- Choose a book, podcast, or movie suggested in the materials provided by RJ staff and have everyone review that prior to Connect Week.
- Host a movie night during Connect Week where you watch the movie together and then discuss it and the materials after.
- If you'd like a shorter time commitment, you can distribute the materials and have a Zoom or Google Meet to discuss virtually.
- If you want to Connect in-person, you can meet and stay socially-distanced at a park, backyard, or patio restaurant to chat about the materials.
- Connect with your coworkers! Do a brown bag lunch with the people you work with where you discuss the materials.

Discussion starters

"Quescussion" is discussion through questions only. No one has to have the answers!

1. The facilitator starts the Quescussion by asking a question related to the discussion topic, and writing it on the board.
2. Participants may only respond or add to the discussion in the form of more questions. Each question is written down on the board. This discussion model is very informal and participants should take turns shouting out questions as they think of them.
3. There are three rules: (1) Only questions are allowed. (2) If someone makes a statement everyone yells "statement!" and (3) Two other people must speak before a participant can participate again.

4. Following Quescussion, the group can then focus on one or two of the key questions raised in greater depth.
5. Alternatively, if the questions are recorded somewhere visually, the group can vote on the question that they would like to explore further.

Round Table:

1. The discussion facilitator poses a question. Each person, in turn around the circle, provides a comment. If a student does not wish to comment, they may “pass.”
2. Repeat for a variety of questions.

Group Text Reading

1. Select a “difficult” text or passage. Break the large text up into 1-2 paragraph sections.
2. Break participants up into smaller groups of 2-4. Give each group a different section of the text/passage.
3. Give the participants time (~15-20 minutes) to read through and discuss their section of the text. If possible, give guiding questions such as: What is happening in this section? What is the important take-away point? What might be important for me to know later?
4. Bring the large group back together. Each small group (starting with the first part of the text) presents their section
5. As participants present, the facilitator should encourage responses to help tie the concepts together.

Looking for other discussion starters? Check out [this resource!](#)

Join the [Facebook Group](#) to connect with other Ambassadors.

Questions? Email ambassador@restoringjustice.org.