



# It's a Match

## OVERVIEW

This grouping activity randomly creates pairs by assigning everyone half of a famous duo, fictional or historical, and directing them to find someone holding the match to their person.

### Suggested Time

About 10 minutes, depending on the size of the group

### Group Size

This strategy can be done with any size group.

### Materials Needed

- ☀ one copy of resource 1, "Famous Pairs," cut apart as scored
- ☀ a scissors
- ☀ a bowl or a bag

**PROCEDURE**

*Preparation.* Resource 1 provides thirty famous pairs that are likely to be known by young people. Select the pairs that you would like to use and mix up those name slips in a bowl or a bag. Set aside the rest for future use. If you have more than sixty young people, think of other famous pairs that are popular with them and write name slips for each of those people or characters. You might use the names of characters on television shows that the young people watch, local personalities, or characters from popular video games.

Let the young people each draw a name slip from the bowl or the bag of slips that you prepared. If you have an odd number of participants, ask one adult leader to take part in the activity. When everyone has a name, explain the process as follows:

- ⎵ ⎵ When I give a signal, start looking for the match to your famous person or fictional character. For example, if the name on your slip of paper is Adam,
- • you should look for Eve. If you have Mickey Mouse, you should look for Minnie Mouse.

When you find your partner, sit down with that person and wait for the next instructions.

When you are sure that the young people understand the task, give a signal to start. You may need to help some people figure out who their match is.

**ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES**

- ⊙ If you have a large group and suspect that the process might take a while, give a common task to each pair as soon as they find each other. You might give them a puzzle to do, such as one of those found in part B of this book. An immediate task can reduce feelings of discomfort between people who do not know each other.
- ⊙ Use this strategy as a focusing activity for a biblical lesson by creating pairs of biblical characters. Use it as a focusing activity for a lesson on media by creating pairs of famous television partners.
- ⊙ Rather than forming pairs, form groups of three or four people by creating your own list of famous trios or quartets. Some examples follow: Peter, James, John; Donald Duck, Goofy, Pluto; Charlie Brown, Lucy, Linus, Snoopy; Teresa of Ávila, Joan of Arc, Elizabeth Seton, Frances Cabrini
- ⊙ Instead of giving each person a slip of paper with a name, write the names on self-stick name tags. Distribute the name tags when the young people arrive and direct them to wear the tags in a prominent location on their clothing for the opening activity.

- ☉ If you plan to distribute folders or books to everyone as part of the gathering, tape a name in an unobtrusive place in each folder or book before the session. When it is time for the grouping activity, direct the young people where to look for their person or character. You might also tape the names underneath chairs ahead of time.

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**NOTES**

Use the space below to jot notes and reminders for the next time you use this strategy.



(This strategy is adapted from *More Attention Grabbers for Fourth–Sixth Graders*, by David Lynn, p. 21.)

# Famous Pairs



<b>Kermit the Frog</b>	<b>Pat Sajak</b>	<b>Adam</b>
<b>Miss Piggy</b>	<b>Vanna White</b>	<b>Eve</b>
<b>Bert</b>	<b>Batman</b>	<b>David</b>
<b>Ernie</b>	<b>Robin</b>	<b>Goliath</b>
<b>Dorothy</b>	<b>Charlie Brown</b>	<b>Elmer Fudd</b>
<b>Toto</b>	<b>Lucy Van Pelt</b>	<b>Bugs Bunny</b>
<b>Winnie the Pooh</b>	<b>Snoopy</b>	<b>Garfield</b>
<b>Tigger</b>	<b>Woodstock</b>	<b>Odie</b>
<b>Piglet</b>	<b>Mickey Mouse</b>	<b>Abraham</b>
<b>Eeyore</b>	<b>Minnie Mouse</b>	<b>Sarah</b>



<b>Lucille Ball</b>	<b>Barbie</b>	<b>Fred Flintstone</b>
<b>Desi Arnaz</b>	<b>Ken</b>	<b>Wilma</b>
<b>Quasimodo</b>	<b>Romeo</b>	<b>Pocahontas</b>
<b>Esmerelda</b>	<b>Juliet</b>	<b>John Smith</b>
<b>Paul</b>	<b>Jack</b>	<b>Sylvester</b>
<b>Barnabas</b>	<b>Jill</b>	<b>Tweety</b>
<b>Ariel</b>	<b>Scarecrow</b>	<b>Harry Potter</b>
<b>Prince Eric</b>	<b>Tinman</b>	<b>Ron Weasley</b>
<b>Mary</b>	<b>Buzz Lightyear</b>	<b>Simba</b>
<b>Joseph</b>	<b>Woody</b>	<b>Nala</b>