

# WHAT I NEED YOU TO KNOW

## MATERIALS |

paper or notecards and  
writing utensils

OPTIONAL: create a handout  
to accompany this activity

**OBJECTIVES |** The purpose of this activity is to provide students with an opportunity to share things about themselves that will be important for teachers to know.

## FACILITATOR INSTRUCTIONS |

Invite participants to answer the following questions on a notecard, piece of paper, or handout.

- What would you like to be called in this classroom?
- What would you like me to know about your family or home life so that I can best support you this year?
- What holidays or celebrations are particularly important to you and your family? Tell me a bit about them.
- What languages are you most comfortable communicating in?
- What resources or supports have been helpful to you in the past? Were there any things that have been unhelpful? Are there things you have never had access to that you think could be helpful?
- What are your biggest strengths as a student? What are your biggest challenges?

Collect their responses and make a plan to talk to each person one-on-one about how you can best support them in light of what they shared.

## DEBRIEF QUESTIONS |

- How did it feel to do this activity?
- What other things are important for me to know about you or for us to know about each other?



## SUPPORTING MEDIA |

<https://www.michiganlearning.org/sharing-who-we-are/>

## NOTES |

Consider other important questions that you would like to pose.

Consider how you can creatively use your school day or class time to have one-on-one conversations with students.

In groups where participants cannot write consider just having one-on-one conversations.

WARNING: This activity may reveal experiences of abuse or neglect that facilitators should be prepared to address.