Self-Symbols

Rationale: Community/Relationship Building; Vocabulary Development; Introduction to the Bubble Map as a tool for describing using adjectives and adjective phrases

Steps Involved:
1. Facilitator asks participants to write their name in the center of a piece of paper and circle it, creating the center bubble of a Bubble Map (facilitator models on a large sheet of paper at the front of the room).
2. Facilitator asks participants to create a bubble map using adjective that describe themselves (facilitator models one or two adjectives on his or her large map).
3. Facilitator asks participants to choose one word from their map that they will use for the activity.
4. Facilitator asks participants to come up with a way to express the word that they chose (a "symbol") using their bodies only-no words, no props, etc. (facilitator models by expressing the word that they have chosen).
5. Facilitator instructs the group to form a large circle and explains the procedures of the activity: The energy will be passed around the circle 3 times. At the first pass, the facilitator says his/her word and then immediately gives the symbol for the word. The person to the left of the facilitator repeats the process and then the next person and so on until the energy goes completely around the circle and returns back to the facilitator. At the second pass, the facilitator gives the **symbol only** he or she does not say the word out loud. The person to the left of the facilitator repeats the process and then the next person and so on until the energy goes completely around the circle and returns back to the facilitator. At the third pass, the facilitator gives the symbol for his/her word and then the symbol of any other person in the circle, when that person recognizes his/her symbol they give their own symbol and then the symbol of any other participant. The process continues until each participant has been included.
6. Debrief the activity: What might be the value? How might you modify this for your program?