Audience Groups 1-8 (Working Together 2010)

Methods Individual, in pairs and large group discussion

Preparation

- Introduce self as trainer for event
- Welcome delegates
- Domestic arrangements – drinks, breaks, toilets, fire exits
- Explain it is a half, 1 or 2 day training course for a multi-agency audience on neglect
- Programme devised by Stirling and Action for Children on behalf of Department for Education
- Outline content of the course.

Process

The purpose of this warm-up exercise is to introduce delegates to each other and to give each the opportunity to speak and contribute in the group from the start of the event.

Divide the group in to pairs and ask them to describe to the other person (2 mins each) what ‘things’ in the last 12 hours will enable them to function on today’s training course.

Some examples -

- Good nights sleep
- Supper
- Bath or shower
- Cup of tea this morning
- Breakfast
- Caring word from a family member/friend
- Promise of a nice evening tonight
- Comfy shoes
- Clean teeth
- Warm clothes
- Thoughts of returning to a comfortable home where you are welcomed and wanted.

Ask the pairs to feedback one/two things that the other person identified – this element should be fun and relaxing if possible.

Links to Common Core

Time
Total : 10-15 minutes
For example:

This is Barbara, she works for Housing Department and she cannot function in the mornings without a cup of tea and a slice of toast.

This is Bob, he is a police officer, to feel comfortable he needs to have a shower every morning and clean his teeth before coming to work.

This is Eve, she needs at least 8 hours sleep to function.

Ask the group to then silently and independently consider for 1-2 minutes how they would be feeling today if they had to go without the ‘things’ that they had identified.

Examples:

- No shower or bath
- Teeth not cleaned
- No drink since yesterday
- A disrupted nights sleep by noise and light (no curtains up at your window)
- Ill-fitting shoes
- No coat
- No tools to do your job (car keys, pen, diary) and compare this to a child with no PE kit, no pencil case or school bag, no snack for school break time.

As one group, ask them to think about how doing without these things would impact on how they were feeling during the day and how it would affect their ability to function and interact with other people.

Play video clip of girl describing her life as a neglected child.