

# Carousel Brainstorming

**Time: 90 minutes**

**Materials: Chart Paper,  
Markers**

**Purpose** Use the Carousel Brainstorming protocol to activate prior knowledge of a topic through movement and discussion.

- Process**
1. Generate a set of questions on a topic and write each question on a separate piece of chart paper. The number of questions should reflect the number of groups you intend to have during this activity. Post the question sheets around the room and number each question sheet in clockwise order. Each question sheet is a question station.
  2. Divide the workshop participants into groups of 4 or less.
  3. Ask each group to stand in front of a question station. Give each group a colored marker for writing their ideas at the question stations. Use a different color for each group.
  4. Tell the groups that they will have 3 – 4 minutes to brainstorm and write ideas at each question station. When time is called, groups will rotate to the next station in clockwise order. Group 1 will rotate to question station 2; Group 2 will rotate to question station 3 and so on.
  5. Using a timer, begin the group rotation. Continue until each group reaches their last question station.
  6. Before leaving the final question station, have each group select the top 3 ideas from their station to share with the whole group.

*adapted from Lipton & Wellman*