

“Snowball Review”

This is a fun way to review a programme and get feedback as a facilitator or trainer. I have used this at the end of day one (on a multi day programme) as a quick way of gauging how it is going. It is particularly useful with big groups (I have used it with 70 + people) when round the room verbal reviews would take too long. It is also a good way to boost the group’s energy too, leaving on a high.

Resources needed

Participants will need a sheet of A4 paper each and a pen.

Facilitator will need a few extra pieces of paper to add into the activity as it progresses (snowballs have a habit of melting!) something to make a noise (bell/ whistle)

Set up

You will need enough space for the participants to have a “snowball fight” and the furniture cleared out of the way so that they do not injure themselves. If you have a quite physical group (I have done this with high spirited groups of graduates) you may need to mention safety in a light hearted way.

Time

About 10 minutes.

Instructions

- Ask each individual to write on their piece of paper one thing that they have found useful (today/ over the event) Mention that they need to write clearly as other people will need to read it.
- Then ask them to write the question “What else?” on the paper.
- When everyone has finished ask them to screw up their paper into a snowball and invite them to have a snowball fight with it.
- Encourage them to keep this going, picking up the balls and continuing the fight for about 30 seconds.
- Ring the bell to call time.
- Invite them to find a snow ball, open it and answer the question,
- Then ask them to write a new question and get ready for another round.
- You can repeat the process for as many rounds as you feel is working for the group. (I find about 6 rounds tends to be enough).
- In each round once they have written their answer you get them to write a new question.
e.g.
 - What has particularly contributed to making the day go well?
 - What might have helped the day go even better?

- What was the best part of the day/event for them?
- One thing / learning you will take away from the event?
- What are they looking forward to catching themselves doing better tomorrow?

- ☞ After you have had your last round you need to collect the answers.
- ☞ Stand in the middle of the room and ask the participants to “hand in their snowballs” i.e. Throw them all at you!

Adapted from a process described by Daniel Meier in his book “The Accelerated learning Handbook: a creative guide to designing and delivering faster, more effective training programmes”.

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