

Activities for Mentors

Below are a list of activities mentors could do with their mentees at any point during their mentoring relationship. Switching things up with your mentee will help maintain a healthy, growing, and engaging mentoring relationship. Feel free to modify and/or change the activities to fit your mentee's interest, or come up with your own new activities. Remember, these are just ideas and are not expected of mentors regularly.

1. "Mentees are teachers!" – Let your mentee teach you something they are knowledgeable about. This could be a hobby, a particular skill they have mastered, or anything else they can think of.
2. "Show and Tell!" – You and your mentee can both bring in photos or items that are important to you. Talk about the significance of the photos or items.
3. "Bucket List" – Make a list of 25, 50, 75, or 100 things you want to do or accomplish during your lifetime and share your lists with one another.
4. "Serve!" – Find a possible service project you can do together and spend a couple hours or a day working on that project.
5. "What's your plan?" – Make a timeline of your life for the next 5-10 years. Include what you want to accomplish in the years ahead.
6. "Create a Mission" – Help your mentee develop their own personal objective or mission statement using their skills, interests, passions, and personalities.
7. "Extra! Extra!" – Discuss a current event taking place in your community, the state, the nation, and/or the world and share your perspectives on the topic (remember to respect one another's opinions and that it is ok to disagree regarding certain topics).
8. "It's a mystery!" – Write down a list of 5-10 things you've always wanted to know. These can be about anything. Talk about why you want to know these things, research, and come back to share your findings at your next meeting.
9. "Top Ten" – Work with your mentee to develop a top ten list of some sort. It could be a top ten list for the New Year, for the relationship, for what you've learned; anything that is conducive to learning and/or accomplishment.
10. "Encouragement" – Send your mentee an "out-of-the-blue" note and/or email of encouragement.
11. "Game Time" – Play a game with one another outside your normal meeting setting. This could be a card game, pool, a board game, sport, and/or any other kind of friendly competition.
12. "Reading Together" – Find a book or some article(s) that interest both of you and assign readings between meetings. Come back together each meeting to discuss your thoughts on what you read.
13. "Mentee's Choice" – Allow the mentee an opportunity to plan your next meeting. This meeting can be conversational or more interactive. It is up to the mentee to come up with the plan (try to be open-minded).
14. "Get out of Town" – Plan a few hours or a day to travel somewhere together and visit places the mentee and/or you have never been. Explore new locations and/or sites.
15. "Personality" – If either mentee and/or mentor has not taken a certain personality assessment (MBTI, True Colors, Strengths Finder, Holland's Code, the Archetype Indicator, etc.) before, complete one and discuss the findings. Talk about how knowing more information about yourself can impact the future (contact the Pathways Center to receive personality assessment information and/or materials to use in your mentoring relationships).
16. "Scavenger Hunt" – Have your mentee take part in a mini scavenger hunt with you to help them become familiar with a new place and/or environment. Develop 5-10 key places with clues for each so that they have some idea how to navigate and succeed in their new environment.
17. "Search for Resources" – Identify a few professional development opportunities and/or resources that are conducive to your mentee's goals. Share them with your mentee and encourage them to utilize them.
18. "Family Introductions" – Introduce your mentee to your family in some way (invite them to your home, invite them out to dinner with you, or any other invitation). Ask to see if you can meet members of your mentee's family.
19. "Workout or walks" – Exercise with one another and/or go on a walk with each other. One of these meetings could be beneficial in multiple ways (catching up and exercising).
20. "Showtime" – Attend an athletic and/or artistic event together. Talk about what you saw and what you liked/disliked about the event.