



**Icebreaker:** Animal Talk

**Materials:** None

**Grade Range:** PreK-2

**Time:** 5 - 10 minutes \*\* Consider using the hand raise/thumbs up feature of your virtual platform to assist with determining who will answer \*\*

**Synopsis:** Students will share which type of animal they'd be if they could along with the noise that it makes, and their reason for their choice. This lesson helps to encourage public speaking and sharing and the ability to support ones' choices with reasons. (This ice breaker goes along nicely with our "Animal Habitat" lesson)

**Instructions:**

1. Let students know that they will be introducing themselves (first and last names) and will then be sharing which animals they'd like to be, the sound that animal makes, and the reason for their choice. Let the students know that you will know who is ready to go by a show of a 'thumbs up' either physically or by using the 'thumbs up' button on their virtual platform.
2. Allow one to three mentors to demonstrate this icebreaker: "My name is Bob Smith. If I could be any animal, I would be a cat. ((MEOW!!!)). The reason that I chose a cat is because they are furry and funny and I like when they purr."
3. Next, you will ask for students to go next. (Many times, the teacher will facilitate the turn-taking to help activities like this to be successful.). Otherwise, asking for a 'thumbs up' and calling on each child works well.
4. Continue until each child that would like a turn has gone.
5. If you have a bit of time at the end, talk about how many animals were the same in the group, or perhaps who chose the oddest animal, etc.