

What is it for?

A participatory process to gather a lot of data from a large group in a short amount of time.

Time & People

30 – 90 minutes
12 - 60 people
Ideal: around 30

Materials

Flip chart paper
Marker pens
Bell/ringer/music

Source

Viv McWaters

And also...

If there's more than 5 topics/questions, groups may become bored by the process.

There's a "lite" version where topics are posted and people work individually, visiting topics in any order and adding their answers. This can be done in less time - you can debrief even a large group in around 15 minutes this way.

Description

1. Introduction

Identify the topics/questions to be explored

Post the topics around the room on flip chart paper

2. Topic Selection

Introduce the activity and describe the topics.

If appropriate, describe how they were developed and by whom.

Invite participants to select one topic that they feel most passionate/excited/concerned about, and go and stand by that topic.

3. Brainstorm

Clarify the type of information you are wanting each group to generate

- ideas
- solutions
- barriers etc

Each group spends a few minutes at their chosen topic brainstorming comments and writing them on the flip chart.

After a few minutes, ask groups to move on to the next topic. Remind groups to only add new/different ideas.

Repeat until all topics have been covered by each group.

4. Analyse

Groups return to their original topic and process the information:

- summarise
- identify top three priorities etc.

5. Report and Debrief

Hear a brief report on the analysis only from each spokesperson if necessary.