

Ice-Breaker/energiser

Facilitators Notes:

Give each person in the group (six or more is best) a straw or similar object to hold. The group can be sitting in a circle or in theatre style rows. Explain that they must pass the straw to the left or right each time they hear the words (or sounds) “left” or “right” in the story which you are about to read out. This means that at the same time as giving a straw they will be receiving one. See how far into the story they can get before someone is caught holding two or more straws, or utter chaos reigns. This is a good ice - breaker as people begin to laugh and relax as they work through the story. It is also a good energiser to introduce when people are flagging or to use after a break to help re-focus the groups concentration and listening skills, and it is fun.

The Story of Tom Wright

It was Tuesday and Tom Wright couldn't wait to get home from school. As he turned his bike left into Right Street and passed the “keep left” sign on the right hand side of Right Street his thoughts turned to Scouts.

He had just been taught that the right way to shake hands in Scouts was with his left hand. He had also been shown how to salute with his right hand.

This was a problem for Tom Wright, as he didn't know his left from his right, so his teacher Mr. Leftbottom said.

After Tom Wright had swung his bike left into the Wright residence he raced up the stairs and turned right in to the right bedroom to get his uniform.

Mrs. Wright had left his uniform hanging right beside the left wardrobe.

She had also left for Tom Wright – right beside the fridge - a pile of leftover biscuits. They went right into his left pocket.

Mrs Wright kissed Mr Wright on the left cheek and took Tom Wright to the Scout den, which was left of the Bakery.

On the right night if you stood to the left of the right flagpole at the Scout den you could smell the left-over bread.

Tom Wright and Mrs. Wright turned right into the left driveway and arrived at the Scouts.

The Scout leader, John Lefton, was right there to meet them with that famous left handshake and a smile right across his face.