

Consensus-Building Tips

Name _____ Date _____

Whenever you are involved in an activity where you are trying to achieve a consensus, keep the following tips in mind:

- Focus on arriving at a decision that everyone can live with. Remember, your goal is to reach a compromise, not win an argument.
- Join the group discussion and encourage everyone else to join in.
- Listen to — and try to understand — everyone's ideas, especially those you don't agree with at first.
- Bring forward evidence to support the various points of view and consider this evidence as you work toward consensus.
- Be respectful and willing to change your mind if the evidence suggests that this is appropriate.