Title: Elder Friend Scavenger Hunt
Recommended for: elders and children 2-5 years
Length of activity: 30 minutes
Suggested group size: 3-4 IG pairs

Objectives:
Children
• Communication
• Follows directions
• Problem solving
• Initiation

Adults
• Memory/reminiscence
• Engagement
• Alertness
• Positive mood

Materials Needed:
• Bag, bowl, or hat
• Clues written on paper about the elders

Methods
Facilitator Preparation
1. Purchase or collect all supplies.
2. Before the activity write out clues about some of the elders at the center (e.g. “Find the elder who likes to read her Bible;” “Find the elder who makes collages.”).

Intergenerational Participants
1. Introduction – hold hands and sing the hello song.
2. Have the children take turns pulling a clue out of the hat. Help them read and solve the clue by finding the elder.
3. Once the child has found the elder they can spend time with them, ask them questions, shake their hand, give them a hug, etc.
4. Bring the group back together to discuss what they learned about their elder friends.
5. Hold hands and sing the goodbye song.

Special Considerations
• Ask the elders beforehand if they would not mind participating in the scavenger hunt. Ask them for a clue or tell them one you would like to use.

Getting To Know You

Best Practices
• Best Practice 1: Staff members of adult and child programs collaborate to plan activities.
• Best Practice 2: Participants are involved in decision making about the activity.
• Best Practice 3: Participation is voluntary.
• Best Practice 4: Participants are prepared ahead of time and reflect on activities afterwards.
• Best Practice 5: Activities reflect participants’ interests, backgrounds, and social histories.
• Best Practice 6: Activities are age and role appropriate.
• Best Practice 7: Activities support interaction among intergenerational partners.
• Best Practice 8: Facilitators skillfully stage the environment to promote interaction.
• Best Practice 9: Facilitators consider the social environment and the role of staff members.
• Best Practice 10: Adaptive equipment is used as appropriate.
• Best Practice 11: Experiences are documented and communicated to varied resources to build upon in future activities.
• “Ask your elder friend to tell you a story about when they were your age.”
• “Ask your elder friend what hobbies they enjoy.”
• “Ask your elder friend to tell you about their family, then you can share about your family.”

**Encouraging Interaction**
• “Shake the elders hand and introduce yourself.”
• “Give the elder a hug goodbye and thank them for spending time with you.”

**Enrichment Opportunities**
• Elders could do a scavenger hunt to get to know the children.
• Other scavenger hunts where the elders and children are hunting for objects together.
• Guess Who? – Pictures can be taken around the center of the elders and children (e.g. an elders shoes, a child’s backpack) and then the group tries to guess who the picture belongs to.

**Technology Opportunities**
• Scavenger hunt – create a list of things inside and outside for the IG pairs to find and take pictures of using the iPad.