



THE LAST BELL

OBJECTIVES: To encourage students to explore one another's hobbies and interests; to have students analyze the skills and "smarts" involved in these pursuits; to facilitate group learning through partner interviews and discussion; to improve students' self-esteem

MATERIALS: The Last Bell reproducible

ACTIVITY LEAD-IN: In this activity, "hobbies" include any area in which a student with learning difficulties feels successful. Have a class discussion about hobbies. What are other descriptive words for hobbies (interests, activities, passions)? What are some popular hobbies (sports, collecting things, music, games)? What are some unique hobbies? Hand out the **The Last Bell** reproducible, one per student.

PROCEDURE:

1. Divide students into pairs. If pairs are not an option, students can answer the reproducible questions by themselves.
2. Ask students to interview each other, using the reproducible questions.
3. As a group, ask students to share what they learned about their classmate's hobby.
4. Analyze the skills involved for various hobbies. Point out the "smarts" it takes to do those activities (physical strength, coordination, planning, mathematical knowledge, good memory, etc.).

EXTENSIONS:

Explain to your students that **The Last Bell** refers to a place on SparkTop where kids share information about what they enjoy doing after school. If possible, visit SparkTop and view **The Last Bell** with your students.

A class bulletin board can be created to showcase different hobbies, including information about getting started, required materials, etc.



What do the kids in your class do after the last bell rings and school is over for the day? Be a reporter and find out what your classmates do for fun after "The Last Bell"!



At SparkTop.org, you can find out what other kids do after "The Last Bell". Some kids are into karate, others like to play games on the computer — one kid is even into bugs! To find out more, visit SparkTop.org.

1. *What is your hobby?*

2. *How did you become interested in it?*

3. *Are there special costs for your hobby? (circle one choice)*

- a. *Yes ... but not too much*
- b. *Yes ... it's expensive*
- c. *Yes ... it takes time but not money*
- d. *No ... it's priceless*

4. *What materials or equipment do you need for your hobby?*

5. *What do you like best about your hobby?*

6. *What type of person would most like your hobby? (circle all that apply)*

- a. *Curious*
- b. *Adventurous*
- c. *Athletic*
- d. *Cool*
- e. *Artistic*

7. *Is this a hobby you think you'll have your whole lifetime? (circle one choice)*

- a. *Yes*
- b. *No*
- c. *Ask me in ten years*