



Welcome to YM22 Home Groups

We hope the home groups can be self-managing after the first day. Below are some suggestions.

Possible format for the 45 mins

Few minutes: Settling in, greeting one another
Opening worship with Acknowledgement of Country

5-10 mins: *A ‘going around the group’ activity
such as checking-in or a brief ice-breaker

About 20 mins: *B time for sharing
Worship sharing or reflection and discussion

Last few mins: Closing worship and farewells
(may include plans for next day)

Ideas for what to do

Tips for ‘going around the group’ on Zoom

Directed turns

Friends may stay muted until called upon to speak by a group leader. They then unmute to take their turn to contribute and mute themselves again after speaking. The group may agree on a method for indicating a wish to speak, such as using the electronic ‘raise hand’ function. *This method will be used in formal business sessions.*

Natural conversation style

The group unmutes to create the natural sounds of being together in a room (gasps, laughter) and take care to look out for non-verbal signals in each other to get a sense of who wishes to speak. If two speak at once, that’s OK: they then sort out who goes first.

Group members’ invitations

One person starts, then after making their contribution calls on someone else to go next, who after their turn calls on someone who hasn’t yet spoken and so on until all have had a turn.

Numbered turns

At the start each person chooses a (different) number between 1 and 8 (or 9 or—however many are in the group), then turns are taken in sequence.

Or a method of your own choosing!

*** A: Sample quick checking-in or ice-breaker activities**

“What’s on top?” saying what’s going on for you, what’s holding your attention

Question: “What made you laugh recently, or brought a smile to your face?”

Question: “What gets you leaping out of bed?”

Choose ONE a day or make up your own.

B: Sample worship sharing or reflection and discussion activities

‘A theme a day’

Take turns to choose and open up a conversation or sharing around a theme.

Possible choices of themes: Sunday, first session = ‘connection’

Then on each other day, choose as theme; someone may like to introduce it:

‘worship’ ‘Quaker business’ ‘music’ ‘leadings and concerns’ ‘community’

‘How I first came across Quakers’ ‘Why I’m a Quaker’

‘Friends who have inspired me’

Your imagination is the limit!

Focus on Nature (1)

“How does the name of your Home Group speak to you? How would you speak for it?”

Note: the names of the (20!) Home Groups are:

alps, beach, cliff, mountain, earth, forest, gully, hill, river, lake
snow gum, coral, shell, rock, seeds, fern, moss, heath, fish, heron

Focus on Nature (2)

“What is your favourite place in Nature?”

“What does Nature give you? What can you give Nature?”

Focus on Land

Do you know what indigenous lands you are from?

What do you know about this?

Other topics to choose

“What stirred something in you at a YM session since we last met?”

“What would you do to change the world? One ... *[what]* ... at a time?”

“What excites me and is calling for my attention?”

Or make up your own!

We hope you all enjoy a wonderful time with your Home Group Friends

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All photos taken by Kerstin