

Topic 9: Getting to Know Your Neighbors

Background:

In the U.S., some neighbors are friendly and people get to know one another, have “block parties” “neighborhood watch” groups, help each other out, etc. In other situations, neighbors are not friendly and don’t seem to want to get to know others. How can you get to know your neighbors? We’ll discuss this today.

Discussion Questions:

1. Describe your current living situation. Do you live in a house or an apartment? Are people friendly or not friendly?
2. If you talk to your neighbors, what do you talk about? How did you get to know your neighbors in the first place?
3. Where is your hometown? Describe your living situation in the town where you grew up. How is it similar to or different from where you live now?
4. Did you know your neighbors in your home country? Did you visit in each other’s homes? Please explain.
5. Do children play together in your neighborhood now? Do children go to neighborhood schools? Is it the same in your home country?
6. In your home country, did neighbors loan or borrow equipment or tools, take care of each other’s children, pets, etc.? Please explain.
7. In your home country do neighbors have “block parties” or “neighborhood watch” groups? Please explain.
8. If you could live anywhere in the world, what would be your ideal neighborhood?
9. Do you think neighborhoods and neighbors are important? Why or why not?
10. If you want to get to know your neighbors, what is something you could do to initiate the friendship? Or if you already know your neighbors, share how you got to know them.

Vocabulary:

block party, open house, pot luck, socialize, ideal, watch out for, loan, borrow, block party, neighborhood watch group, initiate