

# Student Dictionary

**Introduction:** This is a great beginning of the year activity for students to get to know each other and it allows them to work on their writing skills.

**Materials:** Piece of paper, photo of each student.

**Directions:**

1. Write five questions on the board. Questions might include the following:
  - What is your name?
  - Where were you born?
  - How many brothers or sisters do you have?
  - What are their names?
  - Do you have any pets?
2. Tell students to write the above questions on a piece of paper and to add five more questions they could ask someone they don't know.
3. Pair students and have each student interview his or her partner and record the responses.
4. Have each student use the interview responses to write a "dictionary definition" of his or her partner to include in a Student Dictionary.
5. You might model this activity by creating a sample dictionary definition about yourself.  
For Example: **Reynolds, Kim. Proper noun.** 1. Born in Helena, Montana. 2. Two siblings, one brother, one sister 3. Married 4. Dog, named Barkley 5. JMG Specialist
6. Have the students bring in small pictures of themselves to paste next to their entries in the Student Dictionary.
7. Bind the definitions into a book or display them as a bulletin board.

