# Storytelling Toolkit

## Activity 5 – Creative Carousel

Activity five is called Creative carousel. And this is slightly different from the others because it's got a series of possible activities. So you might choose to do one of them, or you might choose to do a couple of them. And it's really for you to think about which ones would work best for you or which ones you feel comfortable with sometimes. So at the centre of this activity is objects displayed on a table. So a little bit like show and tell, which you can gather yourself, or also maybe get members of your group to help bring things along, you can do both of those things, which is often what I do. And the idea is that you're these activities that we suggest here are ways for you to creatively explore different ways of thinking about objects, different ways of getting stories, someone's like lateral thinking, and you're coming at it from a slightly different angle. And you have to be open to the possibility that some of these might not work, it's a little bit more experimental. But when they do, you get such wonderful kind of different insights here. So it's really great activity.

And so they can be a lot of fun. And so you could therefore, if you're looking at fun ways to kind of build rapport within a group, then you could use them with a newish group. But you might also think that it's good to do it with an established group. So they have the trust and the confidence to try something new. So maybe people would feel more confident, then Sharon, you know, kind of a different creative output. So that's really for you to think about. And I think I've seen it work well with both types. So really have a think about what would work well for you. And from the group of objects you have on the table, there's a series of different suggested activities. So again, it really is for you to think about what you think work with the group you've got.

So for example, one's a memory type game where people look at the objects and you take one away, and you see if people know what's missing. And that can be a really good basis for a discussion about what makes some objects more memorable. Why do we remember some things more than others. And it can be a really interesting discussion that, and you could also do kind of storytelling from the objects perspective, or from the perspective of an alien. And actually, these can be really interesting, different ways of thinking about things and of developing stories. Or you can get a series of objects and tell people they've got to either tell a story that involves a mall or say what they think associates those objects. And it's a really different way of thinking about it sometimes, then you will get people's personal stories. But sometimes you just get a different way in which objects spark stories and memories that can be really interesting way to establish kind of creative or communal ways of thinking, you could also do that as a communal project rather than individuals responding to a series of objects. So these are just a few suggestions, but there's loads more possibilities. And I think this what's nice about this one is that this is a chance to get really creative with things and it's really enjoyable to do, but it might be one that you do once you've already done a couple of the most straightforward ones and you feel confident okay, I know how these activities are going to work. And then this activities probably won't be

National Centre for Research Methods (NCRM)  
Social Sciences  
Murray Building (Bldg 58)  
University of Southampton  
Southampton SO17 1BJ  
United Kingdom

**Web** www.ncrm.ac.uk   
**Email** info@ncrm.ac.uk  
**Tel** +44 23 8059 4539  
**Twitter** @NCRMUK