**Stuck In Neutral**

Play this game to learn how to take an embedded opinion or criticism/judgment and turn it into a neutral question.

(Adapted from Liz Lerman’s Critical Response Process with input from game designer Peter Olotka)

**What You Need**

A set of cards with opinions written on them. For example: “You always jump to conclusions” or “This cake is way too dry.”

**How to Play**

1. Divide players into groups of 4 to 8 players.

2. Each player is dealt one Opinion card. They may look at them, but they should not share them with other players.

3. A player (Player A) is chosen to go first and reads their Opinion card.

4. The other players have 90 seconds to formulate a related neutral question.

5. Each player places their question face down in the center of the table.

6. Player A gathers them up, shuffles them, and reads them all out loud.

7. Player A then picks one that is most neutral and the author of that question scores 10 points.

8. Now the game repeats with the player sitting to the left of Player A reading their Opinion card, and the other players writing neutral questions, etc.

The player with most points at the end of the game wins.
Optional Scoring
The embedded Opinion player ranks the questions from the most neutral to the least. And players score 10 for the most and 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 (if necessary).

Example of Game Play
1. Opinion card: This cake is way too dry!

   Potential neutral questions: Did you follow a recipe? or Did you overbake it?

   Winning neutral question: What kind of texture were you going for with your cake recipe?

2. Opinion card: “You always jump to conclusions.”

   Potential neutral questions: Did you think about this other thing? or Can you really know that?

   Winning neutral question: How did you come to that idea?