

# 14. Around the Room

## Objectives

To ensure everyone at the meeting gets an opportunity to say a few words.

Allow participants to express themselves and start to feel comfortable and confident speaking in front of others.

## Responsibilities

No prior preparation is required. The idea is to get up in front of the group and speak for 30 seconds, one minute, or two minutes as instructed by the Chair. The time will depend upon the time available and the number of participants. If there are too many participants, the Chair may ask those who have already spoke not to take part to save time. If you are nervous then pick a subject beforehand and practice.

The Chair may pick a subject to have all the participants speak about. If not, you may speak on any subject of your choice.

When participants speak for the first time always encourage them and compliment them. It is not easy to speak in front of a group, especially for children. Never laugh unless the person meant the subject/content to be humorous.

## At the Meeting

Stand up when it is your turn. Speak clearly and loudly. Try to make maximum use of the time given (i.e. carry on until the red signal is given). However, when the red signal comes up sit down even if you have not finished.

If you do not have anything to say, still try to stand up and tell everyone your name, your age, your school or anything you like doing. Tell a joke if you want to.

Never force another person to speak who is not comfortable. Give them time; they will join in once they feel comfortable.