

Kagan Strategies

Stand Up, Hand Up, Pair Up (classbuilding)

A classbuilding activity that can be used to motivate, activate prior knowledge, close a lesson or group of lessons, review previously learned material, and to have fun.

1. All students stand up and put their hands up.
2. Students mingle, mix, practiced meeting and greeting, and find a partner.
3. Students sit and put their hands down.
4. Teacher assigns and defines the task.
5. Students are given “think time.”
6. Pairs of students complete the task.
 - A. Timed Pair Share
 - B. Rally Robin Responses
7. Teacher randomly calls on groups to report.
8. Students thank their partners and depart.
9. Repeat as many times as needed.

Talking Chips (communication skills)

This activity equalizes the opportunity for participation. It also helps the teacher to monitor individual accountability.

1. Students are asked to discuss a topic in groups.
2. As each student talks, he/she places his/her chip in the center of the table (a pen or pencil will work in place of chips).
3. Once a student finishes talking, he/she cannot talk until every other “chip” has been tossed into the center. If a student doesn’t have anything to share on this particular topic, they can place a chip in the center at the end.
4. When all chips are down, students retrieve their chips and start over.

Think-pair-share (thinking, communication, information sharing)

1. Students think to themselves or write on a topic or question, preferably one demanding analysis, evaluation, or synthesis, provided by the teacher.
2. After 30 seconds, students turn to partners and share their responses, thus allowing time for both rehearsal and immediate feedback on their ideas.
3. Then they share their thoughts with the class. Through this structure, all students have an opportunity to learn by reflection and by verbalization. This works well for generating and revising hypotheses, inductive reasoning, deductive reasoning, application.