

Rally Robin

Description:

Rally Robin is a cooperative learning activity used to guide discussion among small groups of students. This technique has several benefits such as giving each group member a change to the leader, allowing each group member a voice, limiting interrupting, promoting good listening skills, and encouraging idea to be built on for deeper meaning making.

Procedure:

- Each group member is assigned a letter of the alphabet beginning with A and proceeding in order, B, C...
- Using questions or prompts provided by the teacher or predetermined by the class or group, begin the discussion.
- "A" responds to the first prompt, "B" builds on what "A" said, "C" builds on what "B" and "A" said and so on.
- "B" responds to the second prompt, "C" builds on what "B" said...
- This pattern is followed until all the prompts have been responded to or the time is up.
- Ground rules can be set such as it is not acceptable to simply repeat what was said by the previous group member.
- Another rule may be that each group member may pass once, but not when it is his/her turn to lead the discussion.

Special Considerations for Your Own Classroom:

Grouping: Consider whether the groups will be self-selected or teacher-assigned.

Assessment: Consider how you will determine if the activity met the learning goals. What behaviors and discussion content will be desirable?

Evaluation: Consider whether or not a grade will be given for the activity. What type of tool will best measure learning? What point values will be assigned? How will the learning be documented?