

Find Someone Who

Kagan, S. 1992. Cooperative learning. San Juan Capistrano, CA: Kagan Cooperative Learning.

Find Someone Who is a cooperative structure that can be used either for classbuilding or mastery. It requires students to speak, listen and write. This structure was developed by Laurie Robertson, Consultant, Resources for Teachers.

PREPARATION

Class building - Create a worksheet with 4-5 questions regarding topics of personal interest (e.g., sports they like/play, musical instruments, type of music, family activities, type of class activities they like ...). Be sure to include "why" they like the activity to avoid single word responses. Choose questions that may reveal some commonalities among the students. The purpose is for classmates to get to each other.

Mastery - Create a worksheet with 4-5 questions related to the topic of study. Avoid questions requiring single word answers. The questions could have multiple parts. Make enough copies of the worksheet for each student.

STEPS

1. Distribute the worksheet. Explain that they will be interviewing at least 4 (5) classmates (depending on the number of questions).
2. Have students read the questions and give them 5 minutes to think about the answers they will provide for each question
3. Ask students to stand and to find someone in the class who knows an answer to a question.
4. After interviewing that person, they are to write the answer in their own words. The interviewee must sign off on the worksheet.
5. At this time, the interviewee may become the interviewer or the pair part to look for another person who may know the answer to a different question.
6. The same procedure is followed until each student has written an answer for each of the questions. If some students finish early, they may continue to interview their classmates and request the interviewee if they could add to the original information they had recorded. After the interviewer writes the response, this second interviewee also initials his response.
7. Students return to their seats. Ask students to share the answers they found with their small group. When sharing out to the whole class, ask one question at a time and either call on volunteers or call on a student to provide a response, then ask if anyone can add another response. Make sure you call on members from the different groups.