

Active Engagement Techniques

Technique	Description
Give One Get One	<p>This technique allows participants to learn from each other. Individuals list 3-5 ideas on a topic or in a response to a prompt. Draw a line after the final idea. Participants write their names at the top of their pages. They then have structured conversations with a new partner during which they exchange lists, read silently and briefly discuss their ideas. Then they record one idea from the partner's list. Repeat 2-3 times. Then have a structured share-out of one new idea from each participant, stating "from X, I learned..." Optional: teacher or designee records all ideas on overhead or char.</p>
Inside Outside Circle	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partners, designated A and B, face each other in a circle. The teacher calls out a topic or a question. Partner A speaks for 15 seconds on that topic or question. The teacher calls "switch" and Partner B speaks on the same topic or question for 15 seconds. • The inside circle rotates. The teacher calls out a second topic or question. The procedure in step 1 is repeated. Time may be increased to 30 seconds if needed. • Repeat this procedure as necessary
Jigsaw	<p>Members from each team disperse and meet as a group to learn a section or topic together. When they become "experts" they return to their original teams and teach their teams what they have learned.</p>
Numbered Heads	<p>This technique is designed to facilitate team response to a question asked of the students by the teacher. The students number off in their teams 1-4. The teacher then asks a question. The students are given time to collaborate in their teams. The teacher randomly chooses a number and announces that number to the class. Each student who was initially assigned that particular number stands up. She or she then reports the team findings to the class. It is essential to emphasize that the thought shared by the standing student represents the findings of the team.</p>
Outcome statements	<p>Post sentence stem for participants to use to share a learned outcome. Use the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I now understand how to... • I was surprised by... • I am beginning to wonder why... • I would like to know more about... • I can see the connections between...

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I would like some more help with... • I'm becoming more confident about...
Quaker Style Share Out	Students share quotes or ideas they found interesting or important. They can also just read aloud from the text, pointing out a quote. This can be done as a whole-group activity: one person starts, a second continues, and so on without hand raising. This is only effective for groups that can actually decode the target text. Particularly effective with advanced students.
Talking Chips	Each person has an equal number of chips or pieces of paper. To respond to a series of questions or group discussion, each individual must "ante" a chip before speaking. All chips must be used. This ensures all participants contribute.
Think-Pair-Share	This technique gives students an opportunity to share their ideas with a partner before sharing them with the class. The teacher first asks a question. The students think for a moment, and then share their answers or ideas with their partners. The teacher signals the students to stop discussion and they share their ideas/answers with the class.
Whip-Around	Technique for quick synthesis and sharing. Tell participants to do a quick write in response to a prompt and be prepared to share with the whole group. Then call on each participant to quickly share with no intervening comments. Point to each participant in order.