

Oral Language Activities

Inside-Outside Circle

The Inside-Outside Circle activity offers opportunities for students to engage in discussions where they experience a variety of ideas and perspectives. Every student gets a chance to speak with, and listen to, different people. As the strategy involves movement, it is an effective way to address kinesthetic learners.

Procedure:

1. Direct students to find a partner and number themselves “One” and “Two.”
2. Direct all Number Ones to stand in a circle facing out. Have Number Twos stand facing their partners.
3. Pose a question and have students think about the question for about 30 seconds.
4. Have Partner One share his/her answer or solution with Partner Two. When Partner One is finished he/she says, “Pass.” Partner Two paraphrases what Partner One said, and then adds his/her own response, which Partner One then paraphrases to complete the turn.
5. Rotate the outside circle one person (or more) to the left or right.
6. Either direct new partners to share responses or pose a new question. Repeat the process from steps 4 to 6.