

Lesson Blueprints: Discussions and Questions

Lesson Title: Give One, Get One

Grade Level: Elementary School

Project and Purpose

Students gather information from their peers on a subject and write a statement that connects one of their own thoughts with a peer's.

Essential Question

What can we learn from each other when we share ideas?

Materials

- One piece of paper per student, folded lengthwise into two columns
- Writing implements

Procedure

1. Select a topic for the discussion.
2. Have students write everything they have learned about the topic in the left column of the paper. They should either number or write bullet points for each of their pieces of knowledge.
3. When they have finished their lists, they will write the numerals 1-10 (skipping lines) down the right-hand column.
4. Instruct students to move around the room and find 10 people with different ideas and write one idea for each numeral along with the other student's name. They may only take one idea from each person.

Conclusion

Ask students to return to their seats and write a statement about the topic that includes one of their own ideas from the left-hand column and one of the new ideas from the right-hand column. This could be about how they agreed, disagreed, or had a brand-new thought because of the sharing.

Option

Consider giving students sentence stems for their combined ideas. Examples might include:

- (About the subject), I think _____, but another student says _____.
- At first I thought _____, but an idea from a classmate changed my idea to _____.
- I thought _____, and another student supported me saying _____.
- I think _____, and another student gave me a brand new thought by saying _____.