

# Inside/Outside Circles or Parallel Lineups

**AVID Collaboration Strategy 2/1/16**

# Goals and Uses

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- Students have the opportunity to...
  - talk academically with as many classmates as possible
  - review a multitude of topics
  - hear various perspectives on the same topic
  - build capacity using academic language

# Instructional Steps (1-3)

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- Step 1:
  - Distribute individual questions/topics to each student. To speed things up, indicate two different groups on the cards (Group 1 has blue paper and Group 2 has white; different colored inks, etc.)
- Step 2:
  - Students take 2 minutes to brainstorm what they know about their question/topic.
- Step 3:
  - Have students gather into their 2 groups.

# Instructional Steps (4-6)

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- Step 4:
  - Group 1 creates a circle facing outward; group 2 creates a circle facing inward toward group 1 so that each student has a partner; or the groups can line up across from each other.
- Step 5:
  - Have students make note of who their starting partner to make sure you don't repeat partners.
- Step 6:
  - Give a limited amount of time (2-3 minutes) for the pairs to quiz each other or discuss their topics.

# Instructional Steps (7-8)

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- Step 7:
  - Coach students to use complete sentences and restate questions as they talk.
- Step 8:
  - Coach students to ask further questions if their partner isn't able to readily respond with answers.
    - If you've talked about Costa's levels of questions before this, you could stipulate that only follow-up questions can be level 1; other questions should be level 2 or 3

# Instructional Steps (9-10)

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- Step 9:
  - Signal to groups when it is time to move.
    - Inner circle stays put, outer circle moves clock-wise.
    - If you're set-up in lines, the last student quickly moves back to the front of the line.
    - Depending on the time and number of topics, you could have students move 1, 2, or 3 students.
- Step 10:
  - Repeat steps 6-9.

# Your turn!

- I need:
  - 10 volunteers (5 for inner circle and 5 for outer)
    - You'll get a topic to discuss and participate in the activity.
  - Spectators watch and think about...
    - how you could use this in your classroom
    - look for areas where students may need clarification
- We will debrief afterward so be prepared to share your thoughts and experience.