



# **Make Group Work Count: Engaging and Assessing Student Learning through Small Group Activities**

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# Expectation

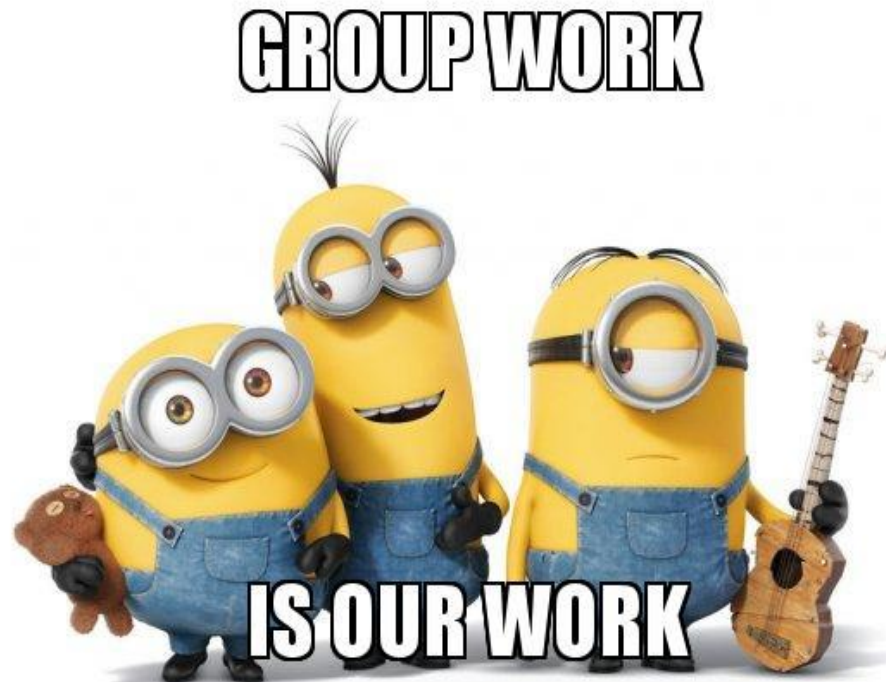


**VS**

# Reality



However....there is HOPE!



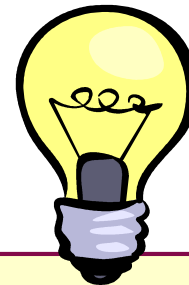
# K-W-L charts (3 mins)

Topic: Using group work activities in class

**K = What I *K*now**

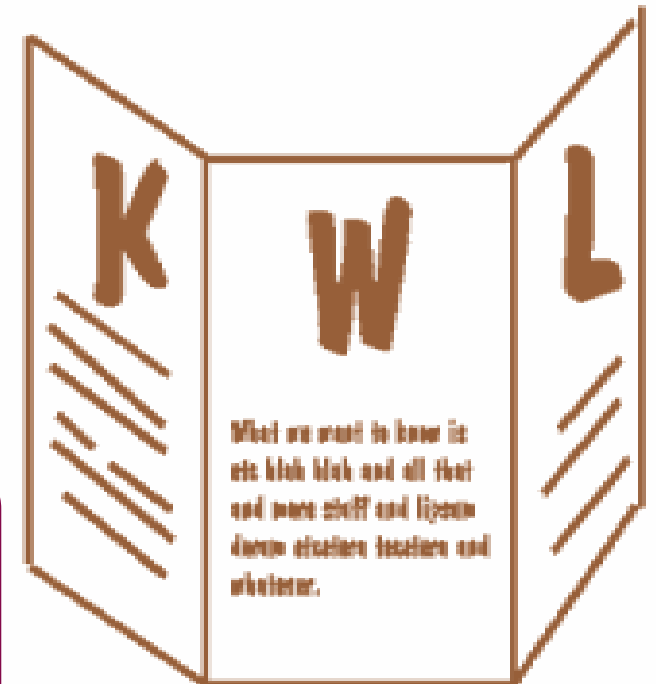
**W = What I *W*ant to know**

**L = What I *L*earned**



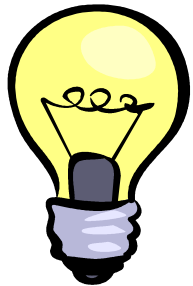
**Teaching tip:**

A KWL chart helps the teacher see what background knowledge students bring to a topic. It also serves as a visual organizer for students



# Think-Pair-Share (5 mins)

- ▶ Form a group of 3-4 people
- ▶ Take turns sharing your K and W ideas with each other



**Teaching tip:** Think-Pair-Share is a good way to get students involved in discussion. You can use it in multiple ways, such as introducing new topics and consolidating ideas from previous class.

# Cooperative Learning

## ▶ **Cooperative Learning (Slavin, 1995)**

- Labor is divided in a small group and individuals' contributions are assembled to create an end product

## ▶ **Benefits of Cooperative Learning**

- Help avoid lengthy and tiresome lectures (e.g., Jigsaw)
- Students take an active role of learning
- Reduce fear of exposure in front of class – lower affective filter

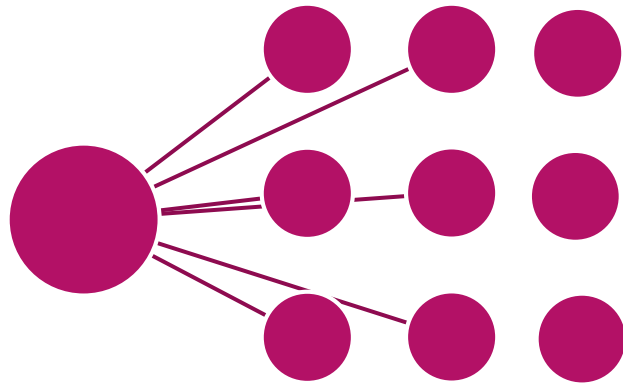
(Krashen, 1985)

- Draw out shy students to participate in discussion

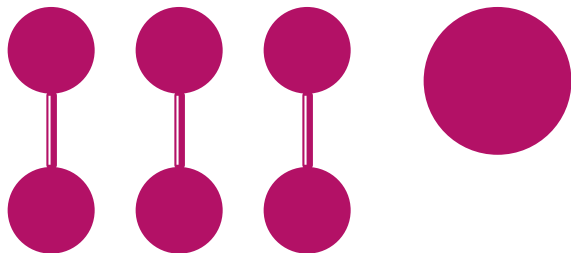


# Group dynamics

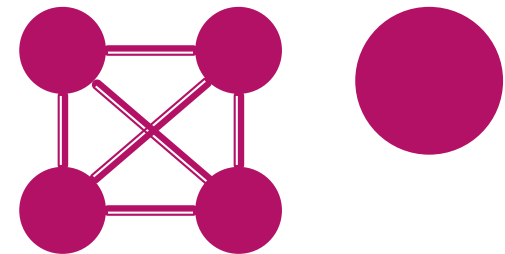
Whole Group  
(WG)



Pair Work



Group Work or  
Small Group  
(SG)



# Tips for successful group work activities

## ▶ **Preparing for group work**

- Identify the instructional objectives
- Design tasks that encourage involvement and equal division of labor.
- Think carefully about the logistics (e.g., physical arrangement of the classroom, group size, how to divide students into groups)

## ▶ **Introducing the group activity**

- Share your rationale for using group work and clarify your role as facilitator.
- Explain the task clearly.
- Let students ask questions.



# Tips for successful group work activities

## ▶ **Monitoring the group task**

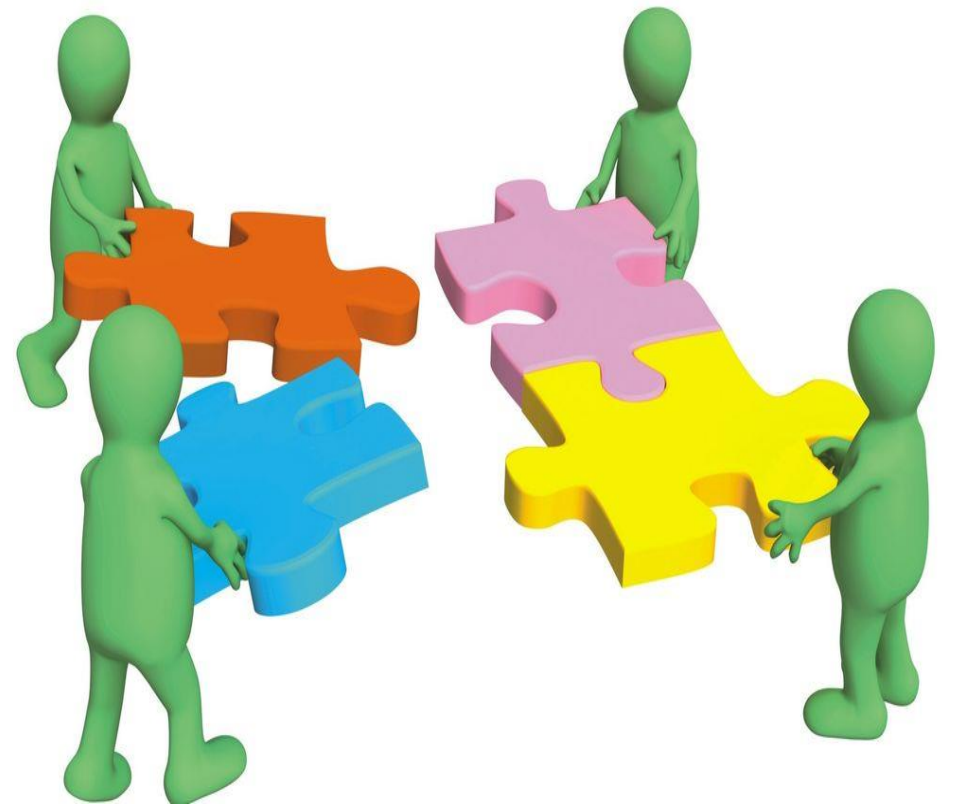
- Monitor but not hover
- Avoid interfering with group functioning

## ▶ **Ending the group task**

- Provide closure to the group activities (e.g., oral report, collect worksheets)
- Ask students to reflect on the group work process.

# Group work activity demo

TOP SECRET



# Objectives for the TOP SECRET ACTIVITY

- ▶ Review and assess content knowledge from prior presentations (inclusive excellence, digital literacy, engaging first-generation college students)
- ▶ Present a group work activity in action!

# Instructions

- ▶ Everyone will be assigned to a Table (1, 2, 3, 4, 5) in a Cluster (A, B, C)
- ▶ You will work with members in your table for this activity
- ▶ The activity will include two stages
- ▶ Your table/group will receive a folder with further instructions

# STAGE 1: Creating a practice question

- ▶ Your group has 10 minutes to create 1 practice question and answer for the topic listed on the **pink** card in your folder. The question can be a multiple choice question that includes four choices (a, b, c, d), a short answer question or a fill-in-the-blank question.
  - Use your notes and your readings to help you craft the question and confirm the correct answer.
  - Write each question on the **white** card, and place it back in the folder.
  - Write the answer/solution to each question on one of the **green** index cards located inside the envelope in each folder.
  - Make sure to indicate on the back of the card where the answer or information on how to solve the problem is located (e.g., book and page #; PowerPoint Week and slide number)
  - When you are done, place the **green** index cards back in the envelopes, and place the envelopes back into the folder.
  - When time is called, pass your folder to the next Table in your cluster. Move on to **STAGE TWO**.

## STAGE 2: Solving the question

- ▶ Your group has 5 minutes to solve or answer each of the questions that the previous group prepared.
- Work together to solve each problem.
- Make note of where you located the answer/information on how to solve each problem.
- Make sure each member of the group is in agreement/understands the answer or solution
- Check your answers against the answers in the envelope.
- When time is called, pass your folder to the next Table in your cluster. For example, if you are in Cluster B Table 3, you will pass your folder to Cluster B Table 4. Begin stage two again with the new set of questions.

# Exit Ticket : Complete your K-W-L charts

Topic: Using group work activities in class

L = What I **L**earned



😊 **Thank you** 😊

**/θæŋk ju/**

**Xie Xie/謝謝!**

**Gracias!**

**Grazie!**

**Merci!**

**どうもありがとう!**

**감사합니다!**