

Engagement Strategies

To use during Puzzle Talks

Partner Talk

Have students discuss with a partner. After each partner shares their thoughts, they can compare their ideas. Challenge students to try to convince their partner to adopt their idea. This gives them time to summarize, reflect, evaluate, justify, and revise their thinking.

Voting

Have students share strategies and ideas and vote on which ones they would like to try. Have students share why they think the strategy they voted for is best. This gives them the opportunity to rate, justify their rating, and discuss the outcome.

Strategy Compare

Have students share their strategies with a partner or small group. After sharing strategies, students can make comparisons, ask clarifying questions, and determine which strategy is best for the situation and why. This gives them the opportunity to extend their thinking and evaluate others' strategies.

Popcorn Share

The teacher poses a question and calls on a student to share. That student answers and then picks another student to pass it to. They continue popcorning around answering questions, adding thoughts, and responding to their classmates. This provides an opportunity to connect and extend student thinking.

Think Pair Share

Teacher asks questions and provides individual thinking time for students. Students share their thoughts with a partner. Engage the students in a whole group sharing. This gives them the opportunity to share perspectives and ideas.

Say Something Write Something

Pause during the discussion and suddenly say, "*Say Something or Write Something!*" Have students summarize learning, as a question, make a comment, or share a new idea/strategy verbally or in writing. This provides a quick check on student understanding.

