



Pass the Question Protocol

Pass the Question is a protocol that provides an opportunity for participants to collaborate in activating their own ideas and examining other people's thinking. Partners work together to create a partial response to a question, then switch their work with another pair of participants. They then take the response that the other partnership began and add to it and revise it. It is okay to reword what has been written, but not to completely remove an idea or concept. In the end, the four participants merge their pairs and take a look at what has been created.

It is important to develop a question for this activity that will elicit a rich explanatory response. It can be used after reading a text as a way to debrief the information in the passage.

Directions:

- Write the question on a chart or chalk board and ask the participants to find a partner.
- Have them work on their response for only about five to seven minutes before asking them to find another "partnership" to switch responses with.
- Give them another five to seven minutes to work on completing their "new" response.
- At that point the two partnerships join together to create a group of four.
- In their groups of four, they can examine the two responses that all four people have had input in creating.