Collaborative Learning Techniques (CoLTs) for Palomino Success

Palo Alto Faculty Pioneers
Facilitated by Pat Stone
1/6/10
Session Learning Outcomes

- Participants will use CoLTs to share examples of their experiences using cooperative/collaborative learning
- Participants will use CoLTs to practice a student orientation to cooperative/collaborative learning strategy
- Participants will use CoLTs to learn facilitation strategies for implementing cooperative/collaborative learning
Session Learning Outcomes

- Participants will use a CoLT to summarize the session
- Participants will use a CoLT to identify topics for further study in the use of cooperative/collaborative learning.
Saddle Up!

• Explain the activity: Participants will individually recall a collaborative learning experience and share that experience with others

• Clarify the objectives:
  1. Experience a random technique for forming an “informal” group (a temporary group lasting for one discussion or class period)
  2. Experience “Three-Step Interview” as a sample icebreaker technique that also serves as a session introduction
  3. Experience steps for introducing a collaborative learning activity to your students
Outline the procedures:

1. Think about a specific experience you have had with collaborative learning (2 min.)

2. Boot pairs with Hat and Horseshoe pairs with Saddle
   - Boot interviews Hat and Hat interviews Boot (2 min. for each interview)
   - Horseshoe interviews Saddle and Saddle interviews Horseshoe (2 min. for each interview)
   - Pairs prepare Summary (1 min)
Outline the procedures:

3. A Boot and Hat pair joins a Saddle and Horseshoe pair to share summaries. (3 min.)
4. Report out! One member of each foursome will be asked to report out for the group. (6 min.)

Provide the Prompt: “What worked well with your experience and what were the opportunities for improvement?”
How Would You Use this Activity in Your Classes?
Establish a Gait!

- Explain the activity: Participants will further discover the talents and skills of other participants relative to collaborative learning
- Clarify the objectives:
  1. Experience an instructor determined technique for forming an “formal” group (a group lasting from one class period to several weeks)
  2. Experience “Group Resume” as a sample orientation to collaborative learning technique
  3. Experience “Round Robin”
  4. Experience steps for introducing a collaborative learning activity to your students
  5. Experience “Buzz Groups” and “Stand Up and Share” as a “Report Out Technique”
Establish a Gait!

Outline the procedures:

1. Give me information on a post-it note and place the note on your forehead. I will form groups based on what you tell me. (3 minutes)
   - Write “N” if you have minimal experience using collaborative learning techniques
   - Write “I” if you occasionally try collaborative learning techniques but feel you need more training to feel comfortable
   - Write “E” if you routinely use collaborative learning techniques in your classes

2. Once I form your group, I will identify group member who will be #1, etc.
   - Rotate the Resume from member to member and complete it (20 minutes)
     - Round 1: fill in your name
     - Round 2: fill in your academic area
     - Round 3: fill in general knowledge about collaborative learning
     - Round 4: fill in specialized knowledge
     - Round 5: fill in skills
Establish a Gait!

• Outline the procedures:
  3. Groups use the Buzz Group technique to respond to the Prompt: “What is the value of doing a similar group resume activity with formal or base groups (groups that are long term with stable membership)?” (3 min)

• Groups will use “Stand Up and Share” to debrief (6 min)
How Would You Use this Activity in Your Classes?
Start to Gallop!

• Explain the activity: Participants will summarize what they have learned in today’s session and identify topics for additional training on Collaborative Learning Techniques

• Clarify the objectives:
  ▪ Experience Affinity Grouping as a Graphic Information Organizer CoLT
  ▪ Experience a Poster Session as a Report Out Technique
Start to Gallop!

• Outline the procedures
  1. Stay in your current group.
  2. Separately and silently brainstorm collaborative learning ideas and techniques covered in today’s session – write one per post-it note (3 min.)
  3. One member of the group collects the notes and spreads them out on the table.
  4. Team members discuss and arrange notes into related groups.
  5. Team members create titles for the groups that best describes the theme of each group of items. (10 min.)
Outline the procedures

6. Separately and silently brainstorm topics for future training on collaborative learning techniques. (2 min.)
7. One member of the group collects the notes and spreads them out on the table.
8. Team members discuss and arrange notes into related groups.
9. Team members create titles for the groups that best describes the theme of each group of items (10 min.)
10. Groups create a poster to summarize today’s session and topics for future training. (10 min)
11. A group spokesperson is identified to present the poster to all the participants. (6 min)
Back to the Barn!

Minute Paper:
1. What was the most important thing you learned this session?
2. What important questions remained unanswered?
I hope you have corralled some ideas to promote Palomino Success using CoLTs in your classes this semester!