

Strategy #4: Rotational Graffiti

Grade 4 Social Studies

Purpose

- To give all members of a group an opportunity to contribute ideas on each of several topics
- To activate and extend prior knowledge
- To consolidate information
- To review information

Steps

- Students work in groups of 4-6.
- Each group is given a marker, a large sheet of paper, and a topic. Each group receives a different topic.
- The students are asked to write as many ideas as they can think of about the topic on the group's sheet of paper. All members of each group are instructed to write simultaneously.
- After a short time, students are asked to put down their markers and rotate the sheet to the next group.
- The next group checks the topic and the members begin writing. They don't check what the others have written first.
- This continues until every group has written on every topic and their original sheet is returned.
- Each group examines the comments on the sheet they started with, categorizes the ideas expressed by all groups and creates a poster from the ideas.
- Finally, each group presents a summary of their findings to the class.

Formative Assessment

As the students work, the teacher will note which students have prior knowledge and which may require more background knowledge.