

THINKING, PAIRING AND SHARING EQUAL LEARNING

by:

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As an Alternative Learning System (ALS) teacher, developing the numerical skills of my learners is one of my concerns in this field of imparting knowledge to these eager-to-learn people.

I am in more than two decades in this teaching profession and it wasn't easy for me to adjust the way I teach my adult learners, so there comes a questioned my mind- "How can I effectively teach Mathematics to my learners? What other strategies should I use?" Good thing, there are these Math teachers in this school who I must say are veterans of this mind-boggling subject. Indeed, good with their strategies, methods, and techniques in teaching this subject.

I approached and asked how I would teach this subject where I would come to an end being sure that they had acquired the objective of the lesson. Is there a technique that you can impart to me so I can easily teach the Mathematical skills with to? Then replied, "Think-Pair-Share might be a good strategy for them". What is this thing that I want to know?

This time, I'll be the one to tell it to you.

Think-Pair-Share activities pose a question to pupils that they must consider alone then discuss with their group which composes of two or three (if your class has an odd number) before setting on a final answer which is a great way to motivate them and raise higher level thinking skills.

Think. The teacher will let the learners analyze the problem that they are asked to solve. Try to get the correct answer. It may take as little as three minutes or longer depending how hard the question is.

Pair. Give students a minute or two to discuss the question and work out the exact answer with their classmate. It is important that both of them can explain their answer with each other.

Share. Ask for responses from other groups. If they got the same answer as the other has, it is a 99% probability that their answer is correct. If not, try working it out again.

Doing this activity, I found out that learners are more comfortable sharing their insights in small groups and it also improves their skills in speaking and listening.

Knowing how effective this is, I highly recommend that you must give yourself a try. Think about how can you pair with your fellow teacher and unselfishly share this as well. This technique is not only effective in teaching Mathematics but in other subjects as well.

This may also work in other learning areas. Try it now!

References:

<https://www.readingrockets.org/strategies/think-pair-share>

<https://www.wgu.edu/heyteach/article/how-think-pair-share-activity-can-improve-your-classroom-discussions1704.html>