

Nonverbal and Verbal Communication Routine

GRADES 3-6

GUIDELINE KEY

This resource is related to the following ELSF Guidelines:

SUBJECT

MATH

AREA OF FOCUS

I

II

GUIDELINE

3

4

SPECIFICATION

3B

4B

Description of resource and intended audience:

Students will compare methods of problem solving, engage with and critique others' approach, and determine the most efficient method through both non- oral and oral interaction.

Materials needed: Poster chart paper

Approximate time needed: Varies

Instructions:

Place students in groups of 3-4 and direct students to solve an application problem. Keep the context consistent, using no more than two different problems with the same context in order to keep a focus on the skill vs. decoding context. Allow students to work in groups to solve the problem on poster chart paper. Teacher arranges the posters in order from least sophisticated/efficient solution strategy to most sophisticated/efficient. Students then start at their poster and move in the direction of more sophisticated/efficient, so that they have more to consider and discuss, as opposed to offering less substantial critiques. Each student will be responsible for making a compliment and/or critiquing at least two posters, writing their response on sticky notes, and posting them for the next group to review. Below are sample prompts to guide their critique. Other starters might focus more specifically on language used or methods of solving.

I enjoy this method because....

I disagree because....

I am unclear about....

One question I have.....

In the second round, students may respond to the responses on sticky notes or to the original problem-solving methods. Once each group has rotated to 2-3 posters, allow the original teams to read the feedback and consolidate their thinking as a team. The team will have the opportunity to make any adjustments to their solution as informed by the peer feedback. During the whole class debrief, direct groups to compare the problem solving methods, discuss common mistakes, and support the validity of their strategy.