

Kagan Strategy: Numbered Heads Together *

Steps for the Strategy

1. Divide the class into groups of 2, 3 or 4.
2. Students number off in the group.
3. Present a problem to the students.
4. Each group is to come up with the answer and make sure that everyone in the group knows it.
5. Teachers calls a number and the person with the corresponding number has to answer the question.

Variations

- Instead of sharing out with the class, they share with their answers with students who have the same number.
- Reinforce mental math by calling numbers as the result of mental math problems. (e.g. Call on students whose number is the square of two.)

Management Tips

1. Before posing a question, make sure each person is assigned a number.
2. Having students sit in a specific seat according to number insures honesty in responding.
3. Model how to make sure each person knows the answer.

Social Skills

1. Active Listening
2. Appropriate noise level.
3. Collective responsibility.

*Based on various materials available from Kagan Publishing.