



Tankersley's approach to Kagan Structures

At Tankersley Primary school we have begun a program of school improvement to increase the quality of teaching and learning through the use of Kagan structures. We have begun this work in order to increase pupil's confidence, neighbourliness, tolerance and respect through the use of these structures. The Kagan structures enable children to work together in a non-threatening environment where they listen to each other and show tolerance and respect for others opinions and beliefs. In our school we would like to sustain a 'no hands' policy where the traditional system of confident children dominating question and answer sessions is transformed so that all the children can feel safe in making a contribution. Through learning partners and mixed ability teams children will have different opportunities to develop their interpersonal skills. Children will experience activities which enable them to lead, work as a team and develop the ability to be flexible and become active listeners. We believe these skills are necessary for our pupils to enable them to thrive in school and prepare them for their future workplace.

The Essential 2!

Teachers that use just **Rally Robin** and **Timed Pair Share** can make a huge difference in achievement and engagement and can take their students a very long way simply instead of "calling-on-one." Along with higher academic achievement you will also see a reduction of the gap between high and low achieving students, improved social skills and cooperativeness, improved self-esteem, increased liking for school and learning, improved classroom climate, decreased discipline problems, increased leadership and employability skills, improved conflict resolution skills and increased empathy and concern for others!

The Essential 5!



In pairs, students alternate generating brief oral responses.

Examples:

- List adjectives to describe the character.
- List inert elements.

- Share steps of the experiment.
- Describe an event from the story.

Timed Pair Share



In pairs, students share with a partner for a predetermined time while the partner listens. Then partners switch roles.

Examples:

- What is the key thing that you learned?
- What is one literary technique you plan to use in your writing and how will you use it?

Round Robin



In teams, students take turns responding orally.

Examples:

- What makes a good listener?
- List objects that float?
- What clubs or societies are you a member of?
- What is one of your favourite movies?

Rally Coach



Partners take turns, one solving a problem while the other coaches. Then partners switch roles.

- Useful for any process or procedure with a definite right/wrong.
- Solve multi-step word problems in math.
- Change each decimal into a simplified fraction.



Students stand up, put their hand up and quickly find a partner with whom to share or discuss.

This structure is perfect for class building, processing and reviewing information, energizing the class, forming random pairs or teams, lesson starts or wraps.