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# Strategic Grouping

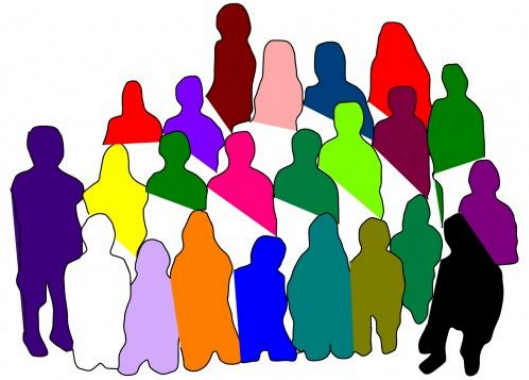
By: Ivy Handley

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# Today's Objective

To be able to identify and utilize different grouping strategies to give our students the advantage!

This may be refresher for some and may spark some new ideas for others!



# Let's Group!

When educators say, 'group work' - students almost instantly sit and work with their friends.

There are several other ways educators can effectively group students for success!





# Expert Group

**Boiled down** - this is to designating each group to become experts on a given topic.

→ **Student Accountability**

Students are held responsible for their presentation.

→ **Responsive to Student Learning**

Educators can quickly observe what is being learned and missed by students.

→ **Simple**

Students concentrate on one thing at a time.

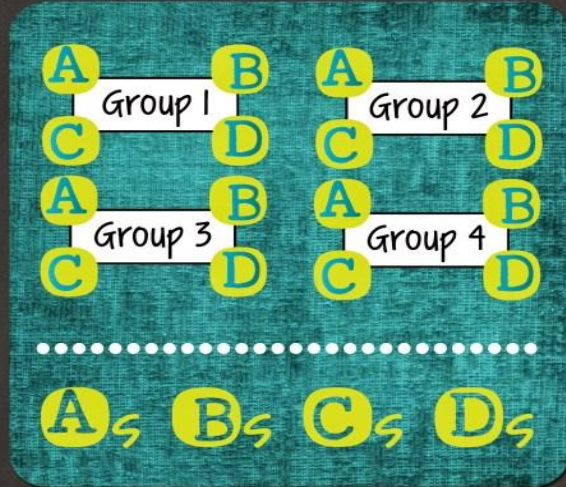


## How It Works

- Group students by 4s, 12s, or anything in between! Ability level doesn't matter!
- That group must become an expert on a given topic.
- Number each group member 1-12 (however many in one group)
- All 1s, 2s, 3s, 4s, and so on create new groups to present their expertise to a new group!

# Using Expert Groups in Your Classroom

{A Cooperative Learning Strategy}



[www.GotToTeach.com](http://www.GotToTeach.com)



## Tip

Calling the students 'experts' can boost confidence and moral in the classroom!



# Jigsaw & T-P-S

These allow time for students to process information individually, have peer confirmation, and teacher approval.

→ **Jigsaw**

Round 1 → Focus Group

Round 2 → Task Group

→ **Think-Pair-Share**

(1) Think as an Individual (2) Pair to discuss with a partner & (3) Share with the class

# JIGSAW

## Round 1 – Focus Groups

Divide students into groups and give each group a different text to read and discuss.

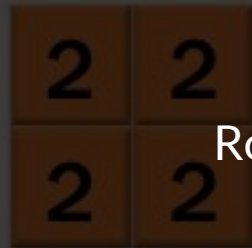


## Jigsaw Group

Round 1 - Focus Group

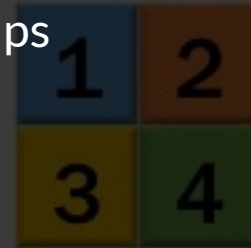
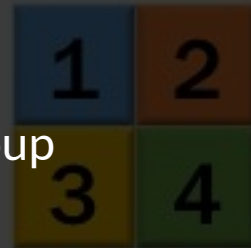


Round 2 - Task Groups



## Round 2 – Task Groups

Mix the groups so that students can bring their specific focus to a common task or problem.





# THINK-PAIR-SHARE

## Think-Pair-Share

### Round 1 – Think

Have students think or write about a discussion question.



### Round 2 – Pair

Allow students to turn to a partner and discuss their responses.



### Round 2 - Pair



### Round 3 - Share

### Round 3 – Share

Start a group discussion by having each pair share their responses with the class.





# Classroom Setup

**Simple ways to adapt your classroom:**

- **Clean**
- **Seats**
- **Desk Placement**
- **Visuals**



### Tip

Visuals are great - just be conscious of how much or how little there is for one student to take in.

## Simple Steps

- Flexible seating (ex. therapy ball)
- Visually Appealing
- Seated: near the teacher and/or away from windows + open door
- Seated by themselves when possible

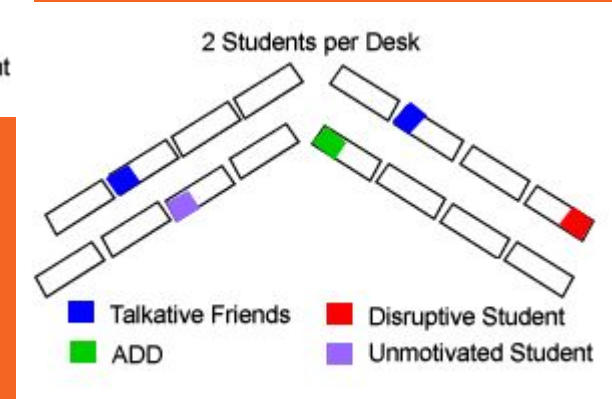
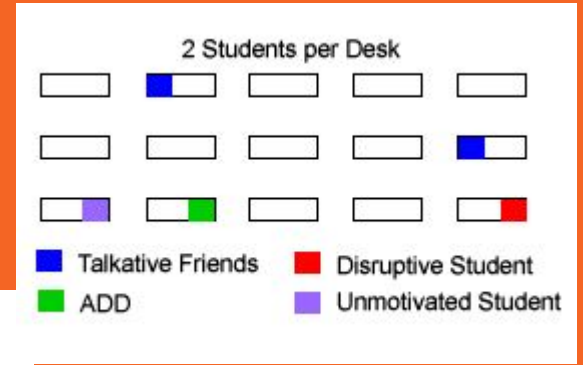
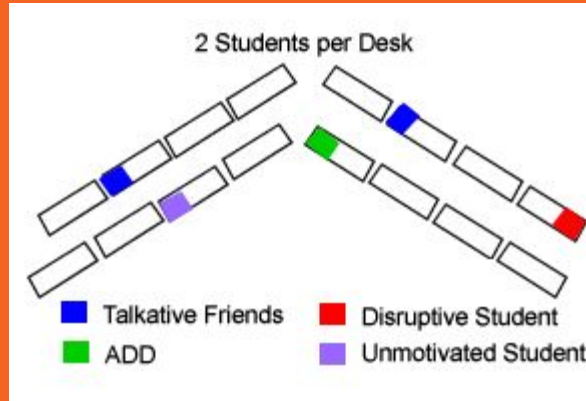
# Seating Charts!!!

All the Difference!!

- Knowing exactly where you have to sit can ease the mind.

Let Them Choose!!

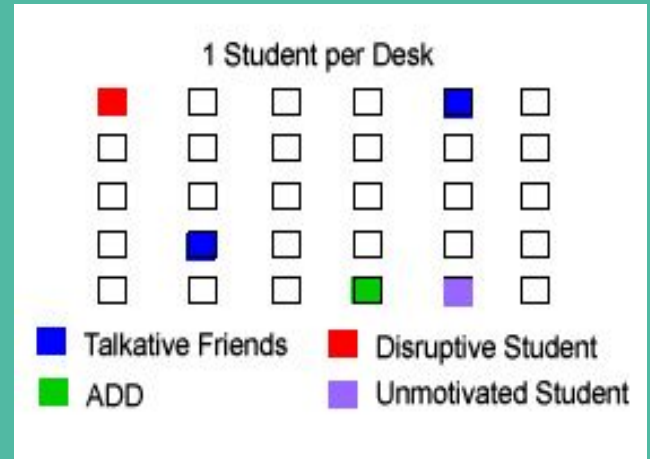
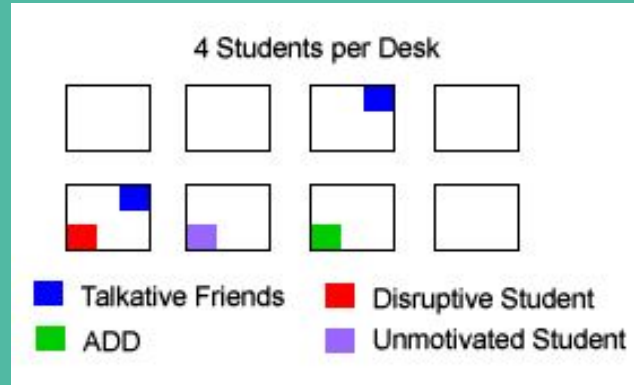
- Collect data, then throw a seating chart at'em!
- This will show you which students are the talkers, the unmotivated, the disruptive, or the ADD tendencies.



# MORE SEATING CHARTS!!

A few things to notice:

1. ADD & Unmotivated
  - a. Front and Center
  - b. Rarely next to each other (only when seated single desks).
2. Talkative Students
  - a. Not in opposite corners on any of these layouts.
3. Disruptive Student
  - a. Always in a corner - preferably closest to the teacher





# Google Classroom

<https://classroom.google.com/u/1/h>

**You can assign group work via  
Google Classroom!**

- **Simply Add an assignment,  
question, or material**
- **Then select students instead of  
assigning to all!**

“As of July, 107.8 million people (71% of all nonfarm payroll employees) worked in private service-providing industries,...” {In the U.S.}

THAT MEANS 14 OUT 20 STUDENTS IN YOUR CLASSROOM WILL WORK IN A GROUP SETTING IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

### Three-in-Ten U.S. Jobs Are Held by the Self-Employed and the Workers They Hire

*% distribution of employment, 2014*



Note: Self-employed people work for profit or fees in their own business. The number of paid employees is top coded at 75.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of Current Population Survey data, annual outgoing rotation file for 2014

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

# Change It Up!

## Beginning of Year

Start with one arrangement and/or group!

## Third Quarter

Chose a new grouping strategy!

## Second Quarter

Rotate students and/or rearrange the chairs/tables!

## Fourth Quarter

One more time - change out some sitting and rotate some students!





## Note

We cannot change the a child's fundamentals. Thank you for being an advocate for all students that walk in your room!



Thank you for coming! Please ask any questions or provide feedback!

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# Sources

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