

Bounce Cards

This strategy by Himmele and Himmele provides students with a tool to help them engage in dialogue about content in a productive way. Students can choose to either “Bounce” ideas off what other students said, “Sum it up” or rephrase what classmates said in a more concise way or “Inquire” to clarify and understand what classmates meant by asking probing questions.

The strategy is designed to use with grades 3 and up. Teachers should discuss with students the importance of engaging in productive dialogue and how it allows ideas to bounce from one person to another in order to increase their own and their peers’ understanding.

Additional Resources:

- Himmele, P. & Himmele, W. (2011) Total Participation Techniques (TPTs): Making every student an active learner. Alexandria, VA: ASCD

Bounce Card

Bounce:

Take what your classmate(s) said and bounce an idea off of it. For example, you can start your sentence with:

- “That reminds me of...”**
- “I agree, because...”**
- “True. Another example is when...”**
- “That’s a great point...”**

Sum it up:

Rephrase what was just said in a shorter version. For example, you can start your sentences with:

- “I hear you saying that...”**
- “So, if I understand you correctly...”**
- “I like how you said...”**

Inquire:

Understand what your classmates mean by asking questions. For example, you can start your questions with:

- “Can you tell me more about that?”**
- “I’m not sure I understand...?”**
- “I see your point, but what about...?”**
- “Have you thought about...?”**

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