

Popsicle Stick Questioning

Popsicle Stick Questioning is a technique used to selectively choose students to answer questions. The purpose of this strategy is to ensure that all students have time to think about and formulate their ideas before questions are answered in the class. Popsicle Stick Questioning also ensures that students are randomly selected to answer classroom questions instead of focusing on a small subset of students for answers.

How to implement the strategy:

1. Write each student's name on a popsicle stick or craft stick.
2. Place all sticks in a container such as small bucket, cup, or coffee mug.
3. After asking a question of the class, and allowing time for all students to formulate an answer, the teacher selects one stick from the container and calls the student's name on the stick for a response.
4. After the student responds, their name stick is placed back into the container providing the chance to be selected for future questions.

Adapted from

- Keeley, Page (2008). *Science formative assessment: 75 practical strategies for linking assessment, instruction, and learning*. Thousand Oaks, CA. Corwin.