

## **Stem Completion**

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Stem Completion is a collaborative group strategy that can be used to activate and engage students in learning as well as assist them in exploring and discovering connections and links as they learn.

The teacher provides a prompt or set of prompts related to the topic or content being learned. Students take turns in their groups to share their thoughts and ideas for how to complete the prompt related to the topic they are studying. The group members then collaborate and reach consensus on an appropriate ending for the stem. Groups may record their Stem completion statements on sentence strips or chart paper to share with the rest of the class or take turns sharing them orally.

### **How to implement the strategy:**

1. Divide the class into groups and tell them they are going to process their learning about the topic by engaging in an activity called Stem Completion.
2. Explain that they will be given a prompt and will work in groups to determine an appropriate way to complete the stem based on what they have learned so far about the concept or topic.
3. Review the Stem prompts with the class by reading them outloud.
4. Have the students work in their groups to share their thinking and come to consensus.
5. Have students record their Stem completion statements on sentence strips or chart paper and post.

### **Adapted from:**

- Garmston, Robert J. and Wellman, Bruce M. (2009). *The adaptive school: A sourcebook for developing collaborative groups*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. Norwood, MA. Christopher-Gordon.