



Educational Development Centre

More Teaching Methods

Buzz Groups

- Informal version of small group discussion, a larger group is split into small groups of 3 or 4 students and given a set task or specific topic to discuss for a brief period. Ideas are then fed back to the larger group. Gives everyone an opportunity to participate or allows shyer students to test the waters before ideas are put to the larger group. Can also be used successfully in lecture settings.

Problem Solving

- rather than directly present material on procedures or processes, present a specific problem and ask groups to work out how they would deal with the problem identifying the steps they would use. Feedback and discussion can then reinforce approaches to the procedures or processes, eg how would the group plan to travel safely in avalanche terrain.

Board Game

- A question and answer game. Set up a 'board' using the format of a snakes and ladders game or something similar. Divide group into 2 teams. Each team has a marker/playing piece that they move across the board a number of squares dependent upon the roll of a dice and a correct answer to the question given. Fun way of reinforcing content knowledge that you want students to retain, or for mini-choice decision-making. Does require considerable preparation.

Stimulus Materials

- provide stimulus material to trigger discussion such as:
 - o a newspaper article
 - o a short video clip
 - o visual material such as photographs, a specimen, real objects, charts or diagrams
 - o a brief audio recording