

## Teaching Strategies

# Group Work: Talking Chips

## Teaching Strategies Series

*Teaching Strategies* segments are brief 1-3 minute videos that feature examples of effective classroom practices from teachers around the country.

## About this Segment

Fourth grade teacher Comeshia Williams at Northaven Elementary in Shelby County, Tennessee, uses “talking chips” to promote participation and help students take turns during group work.

## Suggested PD Activities

Educators may use the Teaching Strategies video segments and accompanying materials as professional development on an individual basis or as part of a learning group.

**Discussion:** After watching the video, use the following prompt to facilitate discussion.

1. What strategies do you use in the classroom to promote positive social interaction and communication skills in a group setting?

**Reflection:** After the discussion, participants are encouraged to record new learning and ideas. The following questions can be used to encourage reflection.



*(Reflection questions can also be found online with the resources for this video.)*

1. What skills can students learn by using a strategy like the “talking chips” employed by Ms. Williams in her classroom?
2. How will these skills continue to benefit students once they have left your classroom?
3. How would you adapt the “talking chips” strategy for your classroom?

### Scholarly publications available on this topic:

Wilson, Margaret B. “Teaching Children to Disagree.” October 1, 2012. [Blog post]. *Responsive Classroom*. Accessed at <http://www.responsiveclassroom.org/blog/teaching-children-disagree> on April 22, 2013.

“Web Tools Blog Series: Tools to Help Students Collaborate.” Edutopia. Accessed at <http://www.edutopia.org/blog/classroom-collaboration-tools-eric-brunsell> on April 22, 2013.

### Online resources available on this topic:

“4th Grade: SL.4.1 & 3, RL.4.1 & 3 - Discussing Details in a Novel.” Common Core in the Classroom video series. CC 360. School Improvement Network. <http://www.pd360.com/index.cfm?ContentId=5415>

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