



Elementary Mathematics Professional Learning

Group Work







It's important to focus on developing specific group work skills. Group work provides students with the opportunity to improve their critical thinking and problem solving skills. Furthermore, their way of expressing themselves becomes better. This method helps students learn interactively and efficiently.



As cited on the Carnegie Mellon University <u>Webpage</u>: "Group projects can help students develop a host of skills that are increasingly important in the professional world" (Caruso & Woolley, 2008; Mannix & Neale, 2005).

The University of Waterloo Centre for Teaching Excellence Webpage provides suggestions for preparing for small group work, designing the small group activity, introducing the group activity, monitoring the group task, and ending the group task.



Implementing group work in the classroom

University of Waterloo Centre for Teaching Excellence Webpages on Group work in the classroom:

Types of small groups Small-group tasks

Video from the Teaching Channel Webpage: <u>Strategies for Group Work</u> (although this video is junior high, it applies to elementary.)

Articles Books Research Research: Full Text in PDF : The importance of group work in mathematics

Michigan State University Connected Mathematics Project Webpage: Working in Pairs and Small Groups

This Nrich webpage provides information regarding different activities that could be used to encourage group work.

From the series What Works? Research into Practice
Student Interaction in the Math Classroom: Stealing Ideas or Building
Understanding