



Diamond Nine

Oral language Strategy

The Diamond Nine is an oral language strategy that challenges students to work together to evaluate and collectively prioritise nine ideas, options or pieces of information into what they consider the most and least important. This activity encourages rich, focused discussion as students are expected to reach a consensus within their group before sharing and justifying their choices with the rest of the class. In most cases there is no right or wrong order; the learning will come from their discussions and negotiations.

Preparation discussions

Nine options are presented on nine pieces of separate paper which students must arrange onto a diamond nine shaped template, with the most important at the top of the diamond and the least important at the bottom.

You'll need to prepare a set of nine cards for each group, each card should contain a fact/idea/opinion for each group to evaluate and prioritise.

You may wish to provide each group with another page containing a diamond template in which to place each card (Alternatively, you can draw the diamond below onto the board to show students how to layout their cards on the desk.

Assessment

Peer assessment; teacher assessment; teacher questioning; self reflection

Extension Activities

This could be developed into classroom debates (oral/walking) to examine the important

