

Oral Language Activities

Stay and Stray

The Stay and Stray strategy is a type of Gallery Walk where one person stays with the work of the group to explain the group's solution to others while the remainder of the group circulates around the classroom.

Procedure:

1. Have students post their pieces of chart paper with their solutions around the classroom in preparation for sharing.
2. Direct students to stand at their own chart. One student on each team will stay with the work to explain it to their peers while the other team members will circulate.
3. Rotate groups clockwise to a new chart. Ask the "stay" person in each group to explain the strategies used to solve the problem. The other students listen carefully and examine the work to consider strategies that are similar to or different from what they used to solve the problem. Students should ask questions to clarify or probe deeper.
4. After three to five minutes, have groups rotate to the next solution. Continue the rotations until groups have been to at least three solutions.
5. Instruct groups to return to their own solution and to explain what they have seen and heard to the "stay" person. Students can take ideas they value and use them to refine or extend their solutions.