Amy Johnstone Andrea Wilson

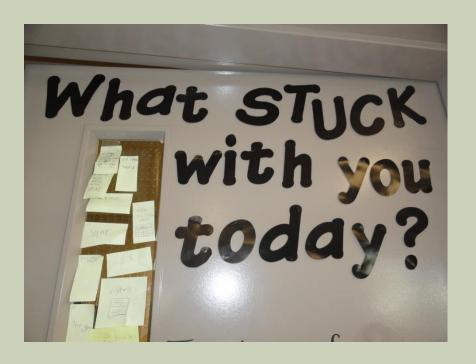
# TRADITIONAL GROUP WORK

Sounds Like

Positive interdependence



Individual accountability



Heterogeneous groups



"The greater the team heterogeneity, the greater the learning potential."

- Kagan & Kagan (2009, p. 5.4)

**■** Face-to-face interaction



Social skills taught explicitly



Teacher intervenes but only when necessary

"We retain a great deal more of what we say than what we hear; there is an inverse relation between teacher talk and student learning."

- Kagan & Kagan (2009, pg. 1.5)

Groups process their effectiveness

## WWVD?

"What children can do together today, they can do alone tomorrow."



- Lev Vygotsky in Kagan & Kagan (2009, pg. 4.8)

## TEACHER DILEMMAS

In whose ZPD do we teach?

- Dilemma: Direct Instruction
- Suggested solution: Peer Tutoring
- Dilemma: Individual Worksheet
- Suggested solution: Team-Pair-Solo

## WHY COOPERATIVE LEARNING?

"...instruction must be oriented toward the future, not the past."

- Vygotsky (1962, pg. 189)

- Employability skills:
  - 1. Communication,
  - 2. Honesty/integrity,
  - 3. Interpersonal skills,
  - 4. Motivation/initiative,
  - 5. Strong work ethic,
  - 6. Teamwork

#### WHY COOPERATIVE LEARNING?

Curriculum coverage

"In today's world information is fast outdated, it is estimated that the half-life of knowledge for a graduating engineer or psychologist is less than five years."

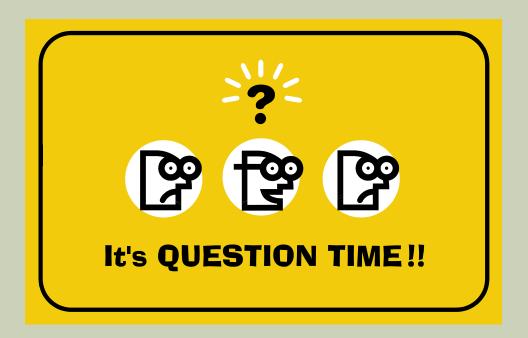
- Kagan & Kagan (2009, pg. 1.5)

## WHY COOPERATIVE LEARNING?

- Acceptance (Valuing differences)
- Self-esteem
- Mutual support
- Enthusiasm (Increased synergy)
- Trust

# **SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...**

■ **Shift Happens** 



#### REFERENCES

Kagan, S. & Kagan, M. (2009). *Kagan Cooperative Learning*. San Clemente, CA: Kagan Publishing

Vygotsky, L. (1962). Thought and Language (Eugenia Hanfmann & Gertrude Vakar, Ed. & Trans.). Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. (Original work published in Russian in 1934).