Gift of Gab: Discourse of Gifted Learners
Hello!

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“Differentiation for gifted students does not mean simply giving them more activities to do that the learner may see as more of the same. Instead, ...learners use strategies and thinking skills with greater degrees of sophistication.”

-Diane Heacox & Richard Cash
How to participate?

**WEB**
1. Connect to [www.wooclap.com/ROPQZH](http://www.wooclap.com/ROPQZH)
2. You can participate

**SMS**
1. Not yet connected? Send @ROPQZH to (855) 910-9662
2. You can participate

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Gallery Walk

Grab a partner and your recording sheet as you walk from picture to picture.

- With a partner discuss your answer to each question.
- Each person records their answers on their own sheet.
- When the bell rings, switch over to the next station.
Want to make a big impact?

Use discussion strategies in all content areas.
Today’s Objectives

- Discover various student-led discussion strategies to use in multiple content areas.
- Leave with ideas on how to manage & hold students accountable during discussions.
- Be able to advocate the need for more student-led classroom discussions.
Cognitive Traits of Giftedness

- Interest in problem-solving and applying concepts
- Voracious and early reader
- Large vocabulary
- Intellectual curiosity
- Power of critical thinking, skepticism, self-criticism
- Independence in work and study
- Diversity of interests and abilities
Teaching Gifted Students Can...

- be extremely tiring or extremely energizing
- be challenging but also rewarding

So then....
How do you keep pressing on when teaching gets tough?
Say it with a Sticky

Name three (3) specific things you do.
One idea per sticky note.
Share what you wrote with your group.
With Your Team

Find commonalities and group your sticky notes according to those similarities.

Label and/or title each of your affinity groups.

As a team create a wordle or visual representation of reoccurring themes.
What the Data Says About Discussion Strategies

✘ Gifted and talented students benefit from balanced exposure to oral communication both through listening and speaking.

✘ Recommended classroom activities include debates, discussions that invite building on ideas/concepts, or asking questions. (NAGC, 2013).
What the Data Says…

Straight from GATE Students:

☒ They enjoy a classroom environment that allows for movement, shared conversation, and academic discussion that is structured by the teacher.

☒ They want to discuss content and learn with their gifted peers. Some may just want to listen quietly. Others may want to talk and ask questions.

(Bradshaw, P., 2016)
Philosophical Chairs — This or That

Basic Structure: A statement or text is read aloud that has two possible responses—agree or disagree.

Students physically move to either side, agree or disagree, based on their stance. From their “side”, students take turns in the group defending their position.

Variation:

✘ Another way to use this strategy, involving less prep, is to read a statement students are likely to disagree on or have varying opinions, and debate will begin naturally. (This or That)
This or That

Homework is beneficial and should be non-negotiable.

Agree or Disagree?

1. Pick a side and be prepared to defend it. Jot down speaking points for yourself.
2. Listen to others.
3. Write down “take-aways” based on their speaking points.
4. Reflect on the discussion. Write down your reflection.
Digital Tools for Accountability & Assessment

Mentimeter
Have students reply to multiple choice questions, create a word cloud, or poll them on their opinions.

SeeSaw
Students enjoy creating short video clips with their reflections/responses after discussions.

Book Creator
Students can use images, text, and/or audio to submit their responses/reflections.

WooClap
Similar to Mentimeter, and has multiple question types and/or visual and audio questions.
Helpful hints:

✗ Be creative with ways to hold students accountable.
✗ Be flexible with the discussion strategies you employ and when you use them (content areas).
✗ Create a rubric to help outline expectations for student participation and behaviors.
Thanks!

Any questions?

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