Practical Approaches to Collaborative Learning

Perhaps the most misused word in education is collaboration. What do we mean when we tell students they will be collaborating? More importantly, what do students do when we tell them they will be collaborating? Join *Ayers Institute for Teacher Learning & Innovation* colleagues Dr. Karen Marklein and Mrs. Julia Osteen for a conversation about practical approaches for effective student collaboration.

Podcast Episode 23 — Run Time 16:33

Summary Points

What do we mean by collaboration?

➤ Not just sharing

➤ Collaboration vs. co-blabberation

➤ Step away from isolation

How can we set students up to collaborate effectively?

➤ Teach students to listen

➤ Embed the idea of collaboration in course materials

➤ Employ various forms of student communication
(presentations, student-led discussion groups and seminars, and short informal debates and roundtable discussions)

➤ Teach by example

Continue the Conversation

"Where are we on the road to effective collaboration and how do we know?"

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Food for Thought

What do we mean by collaboration?

➤ How are you communicating what collaboration means for your course/classroom?

How can we set students up to collaborate effectively?

➤ What steps are you currently taking to prepare your students for effective collaboration?

➤ What additional steps could increase student readiness for participation in collaborative learning?

➤ How are you modeling collaboration for your students?

Self-assessment: See Marklein & Osteen reference & hyperlink (below).

References & Recommended Resources

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