

Domino Discover

Instructional Goal: Find patterns and surprises



This routine helps groups share efficiently, giving each person an opportunity to participate. Tell learners that we are going to do a domino share – where the process goes very quickly, one after another completing the exact same task. Note that if someone does something different or goes off on a tangent then the whole chain won't work.

This can also be prepared to a pass the microphone game where you pass the any object that serves as a “microphone” (markers, ball, around in a circle and the person with the ball is speaking.

Starting Position

Ask learners to jot down their initial thinking; could be an answer to a question, the vocabulary words they remember, or the solution to a math problem. This should result in data the teacher needs to tailor instruction and that will clarify, further or review student learning.

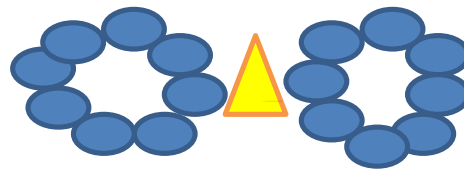
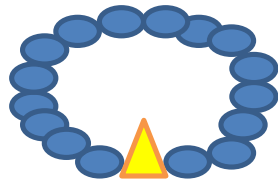
Actions

1. Decide who will go first in the group (small or large).
2. Point to the person that will go second – establishing the direction for the circle.
3. Take turns completing the task until everyone has gone, one after the other, like dominoes falling.

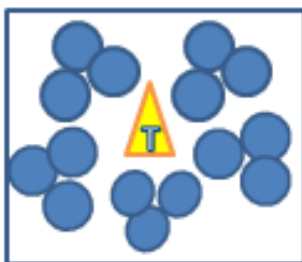
Return and Reflect

4. Take a few minutes to notice patterns and surprises that learners noticed as well as pose questions.

How to Begin



Consider teaching rounds as a **whole class** in a large circle, then dividing the class into **halves** with the teacher monitoring both circles from a central location, and then using rounds in **small groups** such as triads or four students. Students can share a word or phrase written on a post it note.



Use **Domino Share** when brainstorming or gathering questions and ideas from the class to ensure that every student's ideas are heard. Begin by asking students to generate questions or ideas in small groups. Ask students to do this in a round and then use open exchange to gather additional ideas from group members. A recorder jots down the ideas. Then the group prepares one or more reporters to share out ideas generated in the group. The reporters share out from each group around

in a domino fashion, one reporter after another without interruption. The teacher or a student records ideas from all groups. When reporters are sharing everyone else is in the “listener” role noting patterns and surprises that emerge as each group shares. After the domino share the teacher invites anyone to add something that came up in the group and was not captured yet in our notes. This is much more efficient and inclusive than calling on students randomly and requires students to listen to each other.