GROUPING BEST PRACTICES

Nikki G. Lobczowski, M.Ed.
UNC School of Education
Benefits of Collaboration

- Important for many future careers
- Important lifelong skill
- Integration of multiple viewpoints
- Can assign more complicated tasks
- Can add variety to class instruction
Why use collaboration in your instruction?

- To expose learners to multiple viewpoints
- To help the student learn valuable collaboration skills
- To prepare students for a career in which they will have to engage in collaboration/teammwork
- To complete a task that is too great for one student
- To engage in thoughtful discussion about the material
- To reduce the amount of grading
Size
- task and context matters!

Ability
- how do you define/measure it?

Gender
- affects communication, not performance

Race/ethnicity
- more perspectives to navigate through

Research on Grouping
My Recommendations

- Grouping techniques need to match your purpose
Why use collaboration in your instruction?

◦ To expose learners to multiple viewpoints
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My Recommendations

◦ Grouping techniques need to match your purpose
◦ You must know your students well to use purposeful grouping techniques
◦ Group by deep-level factors (attitudes, beliefs, interests), rather than surface-level factors (demographics)
◦ When all else fails, randomize (true to most fields)
Thank you!

Nikki G. Lobczowski
ngl@unc.edu

References


