



Staff Development Newsletter

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It Will "Boggle" Your Mind!

Boggle is a cooperative learning structure that provides students with an opportunity to review content and collectively build on each other's knowledge. It is an excellent test prep strategy. Boggle communicates the expectation that all students can and will be actively engaged in the learning process. Students have multiple opportunities to interact with a wide range of their classmates. This allows students to compare and contrast their understandings and to discuss different perspectives (STUDENT DIS-COURSE!)

Directions for Boggle:

- 1) Provide S. with 2-3 min. to review their notes or skim text pages read for HW.
- 2) Ask S. to free write (brain dump) everything they can

remember from their notes/text. They cannot use their notes/text while doing this.

- 3) S. draw a line across their paper under where they stopped writing.
- 4) In teams of 3 or 4, S. take two minutes each to share what each retrieved from memory and wrote on their paper. Each time a S. hears something NOT on their own paper, they add the new ideas below the line.
- 5) Each group member then pairs with someone from another group. The pairs repeat the process of sharing and adding new information to their paper.
- 6) If the T. wishes, S. can pair a second time and repeat

the process.

- 7) The T. leads a discussion about the major ideas and supporting details in the content based on the mastery objective of the lesson.

For more information on teaching tips that promote culturally relevant instruction, visit:



Culture exerts a powerful influence on teaching and learning.

<http://www.mcps.k12.md.us/departments/development/teams/diversity/diversity.shtm>

Not enough time in the day to do everything you need? Take a staff development day!

- Request forms are located next to the first floor copier.
- Allow at least a week to locate a substitute. You will receive an email to confirm that a sub has been secured.
- May 11 is the final day for SDSTs.

We have over 200 hours left!

Did you know???

- Christie Wolfgang is earning a Masters in Science Leadership.
- Matt McGoldrick is earning a Masters in Technology.
- Naomi Gelfand is seeking National Board Certification.
- Barb Textoris teaches new teacher classes: NTT-01, 02, 03.
- Joe Sacco is teaching a Group Dynamics class for McDaniel College.

Literacy For Every Classroom

This month we are completing peer visits to capture evidence of the four literacy best practices we have been learning more about: Modeling What Good Readers Do, Reading With A Purpose, Student Discourse, and Making Thinking Visible. On March 28, we will meet

to analyze the data using the O-R-I-D process: Objective, Reflective, Interpretive, and Decisional. Through this process, we will determine the next steps for our literacy focus.

Look for this literacy tip in your mailboxes this week:



Making Thinking Visible:
VISUAL OPEN MIND

