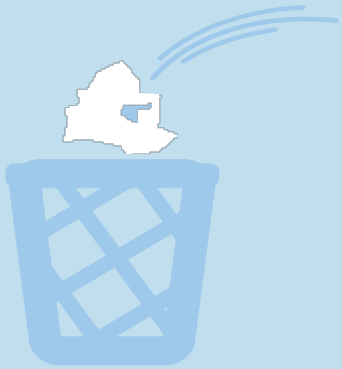
INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES



Commit and Toss

Students are encouraged to evaluate their classmates' effort without personal bias in this anonymous peer evaluation and writing strategy.

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COMMIT AND TOSS

Summary

Student responses are crumpled and tossed into a community pile. Each student then selects an anonymous response from the pile and uses it to engage in a class discussion. The Commit and Toss strategy can be especially effective in helping students form good questions and is helpful when they are learning to write hypotheses. It can be done as a class or in small groups.

Procedure

1. Students respond in writing to a question or prompt.
2. Students crumple their responses and toss them across the room or into a box or empty trash can.
3. Each student then collects a crumpled paper, reading it silently or aloud (optional). (Note: Students should notify their teacher if they retrieve their own response. Papers can be thrown again, traded, or passed around if this occurs.)
4. Students revise, edit, or comment upon the original statement or paragraph in a class or group discussion.