

This strategy gets students thinking, collaborating, and discussing together in a short amount of time. It also can be used to pair students in a way that can be easily referenced for future use.

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APPOINTMENT CLOCKS

Summary

Students pair up by setting up "appointment times" with their classmates. The activity below uses only four "appointment times," but it can be altered to have more or fewer. Another way to use this strategy is to have students store their clocks after the activity and use them to pair students more easily in the future.

Procedure

- 1. Pass out a handout featuring a simply drawn analog clock with no hands, or have students draw one themselves.
- 2. Ask students to walk around the room and find four partners, scheduling each of them in one of the available "appointment times," either 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, or 9:00. Once scheduled, have both partners write each other's names next to their agreed-upon time.
- 3. Present students with a prompt (e.g., a question, task, or statement), and then give students enough time to think about that prompt.
- 4. Call out a time to have students immediately move to their corresponding "appointment" and discuss their thoughts on the prompt in pairs. Together, each pair should decide on one response. While students do this, walk around and observe their conversations.
- 5. **Optional**: Repeat Step 4 until students have met with all of their appointed partners.
- 6. Ask student pairs to share out their agreed-upon responses.