

Carousel Brainstorming | Teacher Planning Sheet

Concept/Topic _____

Key understandings (what students must know and/or be able to do):

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Create four to six open-ended questions or subtopics that will prompt students to share what they know about the key understandings they should be developing about the topic. Record these here, then write each on a separate sheet of chart paper for students to work with as described on page 92.

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|-----------------|-----------------|
| Chart 1: | Chart 2: |
| Chart 3: | Chart 4: |
| Chart 5: | Chart 6: |

Tips for Making the Carousel Brainstorming Strategy Work

- Design questions/subtopics that are open-ended, allowing for an unlimited number of responses.
- Include no more than five members in a group.
- Provide a different-color marker for each group.
- After two to three minutes, rotate the groups.
- Have the marker rotate with the group.
- Rotate the recorder at each chart.
- Remind students that they
 - must read what previous groups have written.
 - may not repeat what has been written.
 - may add an asterisk or exclamation point if they agree strongly with a prior group's response.
 - may write a question mark next to or circle a prior group's response. (This will increase the likelihood of accuracy on the charts and pinpoint areas of confusion to be reviewed.)
- Use the charts for a written follow-up activity with students. (For example: *Choose the character with whom you most identify. Compare and contrast yourself with this character in at least three ways.*)