

Give One, Get One

About this active learning strategy

Give One, Get One is an effective discussion strategy in a variety of contexts. For example, this structured collaboration can be used to activate prior knowledge before you begin a unit as well as assess understanding at the end.

First, students read the prompt or question and then record their own responses. Next, they pair up and discuss their responses with a partner. In other words, they “give” one idea to their partner while also listening and “getting” an idea *from* their partner. They each document new ideas, thoughts, and perspectives from their partner. Finally, the process repeats as students find new partners and start again. During this activity, students are both active learners and active listeners.

As the instructor, this exercise allows you to **identify patterns** in student thinking, such as common misconceptions or instances when students might need feedback to expand or deepen their ideas.

Implementation Ideas

Give One, Get One can be used as a tool in all kinds of classrooms, but included below are just a few suggestions for the four core subject areas:

- English: Students brainstorm supporting points before choosing a position writing a persuasive essay.
 - Example: Some people want to raise the driving age to 18. What are some reasons it should be raised? What are some reasons it should not?
- Science: Students debate the ethics of an issue.
 - Example: Helium is a non-renewable resource. Should it continue to be consumed so freely by being sold to fill party balloons and parade floats?
- Math: Students construct viable arguments and then critique the reasoning of others.
 - Example: Give students a word problem to solve. Ask them how many ways they can think of to solve the problem. Then students share their solution, strategy, and reasoning with others.
- History: a tool to discuss ideas and events that impacted history.
 - Example: How did the ideas of the Enlightenment influence the colonists in America? List specific examples.

Give One, Get One - GMOs

Prompt: Should genetically modified foods, GMOs, be labeled?

Record your response before your share with a partner.

My Responses Give One	Peer Responses Get One

Give One, Get One - Template 1

Prompt: *[insert your prompting question here]*

Record your response before you share with a partner.

Give One My Responses	Get One Peer Responses

Give One, Get One - Template 2

Prompt: *[insert your prompting question here]*

Record your response before you share with a partner.

Give One My Response

Get One Peer Responses

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