

AMATYC Improving Engagement & Interaction in Online Discussions

Break-Out Activity 2

Discussion Board Characteristics

What characteristics of a discussion board prompt do you think can encourage a high rate of student engagement?

1. thought provoking
2. Practical
3. Questions should have a lot of possible good answers
4. Responses from students that are not just re-hash of other students' posts
5. Open ended?
6. application to their field
7. Characteristics of a good discussion board prompt: no single one right answer, so posts aren't repetitive
8. scenarios with no obvious answers
9. demonstrate and explain
10. can be solved more than one way
11. open ended with many directions it could go
12. A question that shows what the students are thinking about the math and can work with others to help learn the math
13. Rich problem

14. promotes for meaningful explorations with multiple entrances and exits
15. requires reflection
16. Icebreakers, summary notes, Flipgrid,
17. Things that have student investment - homework, test preparation, interesting
18. Something that makes them look around their environment & find a connection to the math concepts being covered. For example I ask them to find real life examples of parallel lines around them for a geometry class.
19. diversity of major pathways
20. ...has to be a little entertaining
21. what have you learned in this chapter and what advice do you give your fellow students
22. I like Discussion Boards that aren't about math. Let them vent about mental health, etc.