

Affinity

Content Area: (All)

Grade Level: 3-12

Purpose(s)

- Organize a large number of ideas into their natural relationships
- Brainstorm around a new idea or topic
- Activate background knowledge
- Summarize a unit
- Make connections and identify patterns

5C Focus Area(s)

- Communication
- Collaboration
- Critical Thinking
- Creative Thinking

Process/Procedures

1. Pose an open-ended question - example, what do you think of when you hear the word data?
2. Provide 2-3 minutes for individual brainstorming. Record each idea/thought on a separate sticky note.
3. Put students into small groups of 4-5 students.
4. Spread sticky notes on a large piece of post-it paper or tag board so all are visible.
5. As a group, look for ideas that seem to be related in some way (affinity for each other). Place them side by side. Repeat until all notes are grouped. It's okay to have "loners" that don't seem to fit a group.
6. When ideas are grouped, create a heading for each group and record it on the paper/tag board.
7. Share as a class - discuss trends, patterns, outliers, connections, etc.

Materials

- Large chart paper
- Markers
- Sticky Notes

Related Info./Resources



