

iPeer project

Info sheet for Fishbowl

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Document control

Document history

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Document distribution list

Internal (iPeer project group)	Internal (iPeer extended Project group)	Public
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Info sheet of Fishbowl

Basic info

Methodology name: Fishbowl

Also known as: Inner-outer circle

Derived from: -

Author of the methodology: -

Explanation

The Fishbowl method. is a cooperative learning structure for small group discussions and explicitly teaches a variety of social skills. The idea is that a small group (ideally 3 to 6 people) discuss while the rest of the participants sit around and observe without interrupting. Facilitation focuses on the main group discussion. Fewer people = easier to facilitate.

How to demonstrate it

Example instructions for international relations teachers:

1. Present students with the question/problem. For example: "How has the Russia-Ukraine affected economy, health and immigration aspects in the EU?"
2. Create groups of 3-6 students. Place the group members, one by one, on chairs forming a circle.
3. Position chairs as an outer circle from where the rest of the classmates will listen and take notes.
4. Encourage the participation of all students by allowing groups to rotate once a topic has been discussed.
5. Make sure that only the students in the inner circle speak, while others must be quiet and take notes.
6. Leave some time for reflection. After all of the students rotate and the Fishbowl discussion is finished, ask students how they think the discussion went and what they've learned.

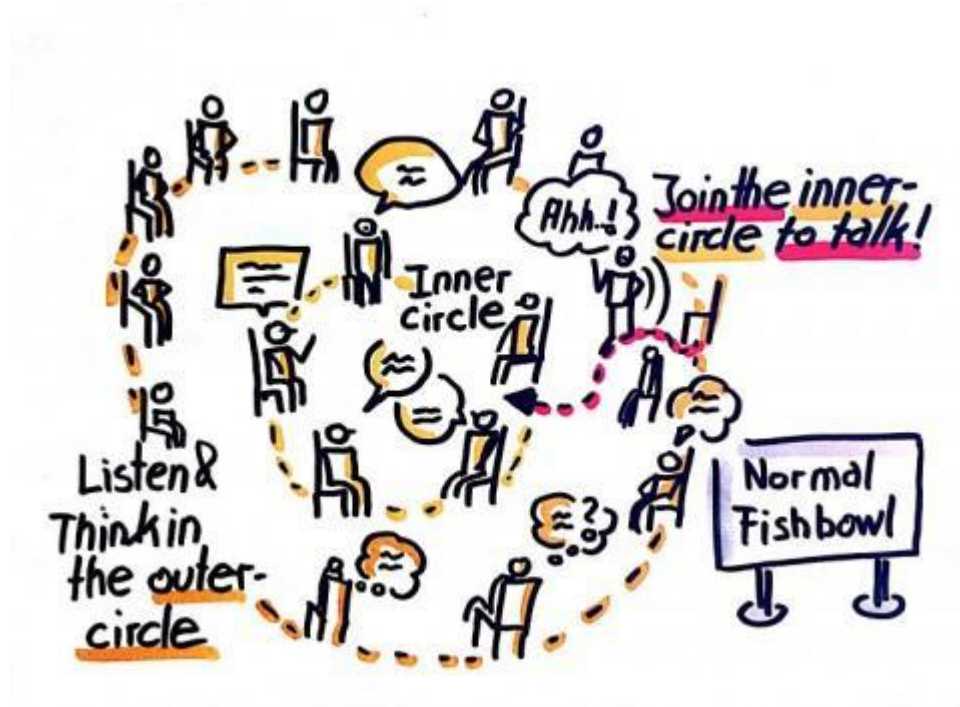


Image 1: Fishbowl Groups

More info and sources

- <https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/fishbowl>
- https://www.edutopia.org/pdfs/coop_math_bowman/bowman_fishbowl_metho.pdf
- <https://www.betterevaluation.org/methods-approaches/methods/fishbowl-technique>
- Images: <https://mbspguide.org/2022/03/18/fish-bowl/>