

# Cooperative Learning Strategies

## What is cooperative learning?

a set of instructional methods in which learners are required to complete academic assignments together as a whole class or in a small mixed ability group.  
(Slavin,1991)



## Why is cooperative learning important?

social constructivism suggests learning experiences are social in nature and proposes that learning cannot be separated from the social context where learners develop their sense of identity from FIRST a social perspective and THEN an individual perspective.  
(Powell & Kalina, 2009)

The importance of creating interaction is often guided by the assumption that social construction of knowledge is essential for learning (Vygotsky, 1978)!



## How does cooperative learning work?

students work in small groups  
students promote each other's learning, explaining, discussing, or sharing what they know with their peers

## What are the benefits of cooperative learning?

face-to-face interaction  
individual and group accountability  
interpersonal and small-group skills  
positive interdependence  
group processing  
motivates students to take active and responsible roles in their learning

## How to use cooperative learning strategies...

1. Jigsaw
2. Book Club
3. Performance Assessments
4. Pair-Share
5. RADaR
6. Double Entry Journals

