National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior

Park Museum Management Program Teaching with Museum Collections



## *Think-Pair-Share* Technique

**Think-Pair-Share** is a technique used for brainstorming in a classroom setting. It leverages the power of both individual and collaborative thinking, while enhancing oral fluency skills by asking a question, having the class brainstorm and solve the problem, and then share their solutions. The iterative nature of this process helps students reflect and refine their understanding of a problem, and opens their eyes to the value of listening to multiple points of view.

Present the class with a problem to solve or an issue to brainstorm.

First Step: Think about the Problem

Each student is instructed to "Think" independently [to themselves] about the problem, and then record their thoughts on paper.

Second Step: Pair Students to Find a Solution

Pair students into groups of two. Each person verbalizes his or her solution(s) to the problem. The "Pair" discusses these solution[s], and then revises their written responses to reflect the consensus generated by their dialogue.

Third Step: Share Solution

Pairs "Share" their solution(s) with the class. The teacher mediates a discussion about the various ideas presented.