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ONLINE: Classroom Collaboration

"I liked that there were lots of practical, usable ideas and not just theory. I found myself opening my planbook to add in ideas I found in these lessons!"
— Justin B.

Implement collaborative learning in classrooms and develop successful learners. This framework enables teachers to recognize characteristics of collaborative classrooms, be aware of student and teacher roles, and practice group activities as an essential part of the classroom. Teachers are introduced to school-wide policy reforms in place today that promote collaboration and group activities.

Teachers are also provided with ideas and strategies to accommodate learners, including students with special needs. The practical examples, real-life experiences, and templates in this online course provide teachers a structure to use in their own classrooms.

Standards:

This course aligns to all of the INTASC Standards including Learner Development, Learning Differences, Learning Environments, Content Knowledge, Application of Content, Assessment, Planning for Instruction and Instructional Strategies.

It also aligns to all of the McRel Teacher Evaluation Standards including Teacher Leadership, Diverse Learners, Teachers Know Content, Teachers Facilitate Learning and Teachers Analyze and Reflect.

Each online PD course includes:

- **Convenient access** anytime, anywhere, any device
- Interactive **online** textbook
- Implement **practical suggestions** immediately
- Demonstrate comprehension with **quizzes** and checks for understanding
- Print **certificates** of completion
- Easily assign courses to align with each teacher's **personalized PD needs**
- **Integrate** with school and district-wide initiatives
- **Low cost solution for all courses, all teachers, all school year**
- **Reports** for school administrators

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Course Outline

LESSON 1: Introduction to Collaborative Learning

- What is Collaborative Learning?
- Why should students collaborate?
- Collaboration vs. Traditional Approach
- Benefits and Importance of collaborative learning
- Overview on Effective Collaboration in the Classroom
- Alignment of collaboration to State Standards
- The Collaborative Learning Model

LESSON 2: Collaborative Tools and Strategies

- Characteristics of a collaborative teacher
- Grouping Strategies
- Designing grouping assignments
- Collaborative Learning Techniques
- Web Tools for Collaboration
- Examples of Collaborative Projects
- Interactions in a Collaborative Classroom
- Activities that students can collaborate on
- Around the world collaboration
- Resources for collaboration

LESSON 3: The Collaborative Classroom

- Characteristics of a Collaborative Classroom
- Student and Teacher Roles in a Collaborative Classroom
- Preparing for Collaborative Activities
- Examples of Classroom Collaboration
- Collaborative Learning Spaces
- Managing today's classroom

LESSON 4: Assessment, Accommodations, and Challenges

- Collaborative Assessment
- Approaches to Collaborative Assessment
- Challenges in a collaborative classroom
- Conflict Resolution
- School-wide policies to promote collaboration