

Learning Cubes

20 Squishably Soft Learning Cubes!

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Learning Cubes are squishably soft and quiet-to-roll 3-inch foam cubes. On each of the six sides of the cube is a different student question or activity prompt. The best part about them is they can be used over and over again with any new topic you're studying.

Here are some ideas on how to use your Learning Cubes in your classroom.



Activities for Student Teams

Give each team of 4 students a Learning Cube, and let them use the Learning Cube to lead themselves through one of the following engaging activities:

- **RoundRobin**—One teammate rolls the cube. He or she reads the selected prompt to the team. The same teammate shares his or her response aloud with teammates. When done, the person to the left shares his or her response. Each teammate takes a turn responding. After everyone has responded to the prompt, the teammate on the left rolls it next and leads the team through another round of sharing.
- **Think-Write-RoundRobin**—One teammate rolls the cube. He or she reads the selected prompt to the team. Teammates think about their own answers, and then quickly write their responses, no talking. When everyone has a response, teammates take turns reading their responses to their team.
- **Roll and Respond**—One teammate rolls the cube. He or she reads the selected prompt to the team. Then, the same teammate responds aloud to the prompt. After responding, the teammate passes the cube one teammate to the left. The next teammate gives it a roll and responds. The process continues with each teammate rolling and responding.

Some Things to Consider...

- **Single or Continuous RoundRobin?**
In a Single RoundRobin, the cube is passed around the team just one time. In a Continuous RoundRobin, the cube can make many rounds around the team. Whether to use Single or Continuous RoundRobin depends on the cube, your students, and the time available. Decide in advance which fits your activity best.
- **Repeats or Not?**
The fun thing about the cube is that when you roll it, you get a randomly selected prompt. However, this means you can roll it twice and come up with the same prompt twice. Decide if you will allow repeats or not. This depends mostly on which cube you are using and how you are using it. If repeats don't make sense, then have students roll it again to select another side. If this second roll doesn't pick a new prompt, then they manually select the new prompt and place it face up.
- **Teacher-Led Activities**
You can also use one Learning Cube to lead your class through one of the activities mentioned before.
- **Ways to Select a Prompt**
 - **Random**—Give it a roll. The face pointing up is the randomly selected prompt.
 - **Pick It**—Select one of the 6 faces and share the prompt with the class.
 - **Toss It**—Toss it to a student in the class. He or she reads the prompt on the top aloud to the class.
- **Ways to Share the Prompt with the Class**
 - **Projector**—Use a document camera to project the prompt for the class.
 - **Orally**—Read the prompt aloud to the class.

It's All About Engagement!

