



Structure # 18

PAIR SHARE

Partners take turns sharing and listening.

PAIR SHARE is a quick and easy way to get full student engagement. At any point in the lesson, the teacher has students turn to a partner and do a two-way share. Pairs can be face partners, shoulder partners, or even classmates paring up from a StandUp–HandUp–PairUp. There is no end to what students can share. They can share an idea, an answer, an opinion, their feelings, or a solution. The idea with Pair Share is a quick two-way share and to move on. If the response is an elaborated response, a Timed Pair Share is more appropriate. Use Pair Share any time you want every student to participate. It's a great tool to keep everyone tuned in, and it only takes a minute.

Pair Share is in contrast to a Pair Discussion or Turn-N-Talk. In those structures, the high achiever in each pair is likely to do most or even all the talking. In Pair Share, students both share equally. To equalize participation, the teacher might limit the sharing to a few sentences each. For example, the teacher might say, “*Think about the moral of the story. Now summarize your thinking in one sentence that begins with ‘the moral is...’ Now share your sentences with your partner both ways and then raise a hand to signal you are finished.*”

TRAVELING PAIR SHARE

Traveling Pair Share is a great structure to use during the share time when you want students to briefly share with multiple classmates. For example, “*When I say, ‘Go!’ I want you to stand up, put a hand up, and pair with a partner. Briefly share one thing that happened in the story. Then find a new partner to share another story event. Keep pairing up until I call, ‘Times Up!’ Ready, Go!*”



Pair Share vs. Timed Pair Share

There are two key differences between Pair Share and Timed Pair Share. First, in Timed Pair Share, responses are timed so that students have equal share time. This is ideal to create equal participation for elaborate responses. Second, in Timed Pair Share, students respond to each other. Pair Share is for that quick two-way share.

STEPS



Step
1

Teacher Announces Topic

The teacher announces the topic partners will share about and provides Think Time.



Step
2

First Partner Shares

The teacher selects a partner to begin sharing. The teacher can say, “*Partner A begin,*” or pick a partner using a cue such as, “*Taller partner begin.*” The selected partner shares while his or her partner listens.



Step
3

Second Partner Shares

When the first partner is done sharing, the other partner shares while his or her partner listens.



Step
4

Signal When Finished

Students both raise a hand to signal they have both shared.

Pair Share



WHO STARTS

Pair Share

Teacher Instructions. Use these cues to inform students who shares first. For example, “*The partner with the longer hair shares first.*” Mix it up for fun and variety. If partners tie, have a default rule such as tallest partner starts.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Be careful not to use sensitive characteristics such as weight.

- Bigger hand
- Smaller hand
- Taller partner
- Shorter partner
- Partner with head closest to ceiling
- Bigger foot
- Smaller foot
- Longer pinky
- Shorter thumb
- Darker eyes
- Lighter eyes
- Longer hair
- Shorter hair
- Darker hair
- Lighter hair

CLOTHING

Be careful not to use judgement calls such as cuter outfit.

- More buttons
- Fewer buttons
- Darker shirt
- Lighter shirt
- Bigger shoes
- Smaller shoes
- Brighter colors
- More colors
- Fewer colors
- Warmer clothes
- Higher socks
- Lower socks

ABOUT ME

These take more time, but add a little fun, so use accordingly.

- First name comes first alphabetically
- First name comes last alphabetically
- Last name comes first alphabetically
- Last name comes last alphabetically
- Birthday first in the year
- Birthday last in the year
- Number of syllables in favorite band
- Farthest I've traveled
- Bigger favorite animal
- Smaller favorite animal
- Favorite sport alphabetically
- Later bedtime
- Earlier bedtime
- Time of favorite TV show
- Woke up earlier today
- More siblings
- Fewer siblings
- More pets
- Fewer pets