

# SOCRATIC DIALOGUES USING WHITEBOARDS

*Socratic dialogues can have a strong positive impact on the quality of classroom discourse.*



**Whiteboarding Makes Student Thinking Visible** Research shows that student learning is strongly affected by alternative conceptions. There is no better way to elicit and confront false ideas than by having students make their thinking visible.

**Whiteboarding Enhances Student Cooperation** Cooperative learning is a powerful way to help students learn. Whiteboarding in groups helps students learn cooperative skills and see science learning as a social responsibility.



**Whiteboarding Motivates Students** Experience shows that students thoroughly enjoy the whiteboarding experience, and using whiteboards in the classroom motivates students to become actively involved in their own education.

**Whiteboarding Improves Communication Skills** Students who work together to make presentations develop better individual and whole-group communication skills.

**Whiteboarding Promotes Scientific Reasoning** Students who are engaged in white-boarding quickly learn that simplistic thinking is unacceptable as a problem-solving technique.



**Whiteboarding Increases Student Participation**

Classes regularly engaged in whiteboarding leave no space for students to “hide.” All students are regularly engaged and held publicly accountable for learning through whiteboard presentations.

**Whiteboarding Enhances Student Learning**

Because the levels of social engagement and mental processing required to prepare and give a whiteboard presentation are high, student learning across the spectrum increases significantly.

- Socratic dialogues with whiteboards
- can be used with any subject matter.

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