

TRIBES TLC® Learning Strategy

The Five E's for Discovery Learning

Grades:	3-adult
Time:	depends upon material
Grouping:	tribes
Materials:	academic theme/information

Objectives

1. To enhance the abilities of students to think constructively by developing the capacity to investigate, analyze, solve-problems and construct meaningful knowledge
2. To enable students to take responsibility for their own learning
3. To practice the collaborative skills of team planning, project management and assessment
4. To enable students to discover and believe in their own unique abilities

Instructions

Pre-class preparation: Select an academic theme or topic for group exploration and assemble a list of resources applicable to the investigation or project to be carried out by student groups. Define the objectives and outcome tasks for the learning groups.

1. **Engage (teacher leadership):** Define an *inclusion question* or strategy that links the topic to students' interests or personal experiences. Connect the topic to past learning. State the objectives, task and the time for the tribes to accomplish their explorations or projects. Describe your role as a "guide on the side" who is available to suggest resources, to clarify the process as necessary and to review the tribes' progress.
2. **Explore (student leadership):** Transfer responsibility to the tribes to review the four Tribe TLC agreements, and then to discuss and list several questions about the topic that they would like to explore. Each tribe selects one question and informs the class community what they will research. Each group decides how they will research their selected question (interviews, Internet, library, videos, books, articles, conduct experiment, etc.). Each tribe makes an action plan (who will do what) and initiates their investigation.
3. **Explain (student leadership):** The tribes discuss their discoveries, plan presentations (how they will teach the class); they confer with the teacher-guide and present their discovery to the class community. They share their action steps and justify conclusions from researched information.
4. **Elaborate (student leadership):** The tribes involve the class (other tribes) to expand on concepts, connect to real-world issues and think of questions for further exploration.
5. **Evaluate (student leadership):** Each tribe asks reflection questions they have prepared. They complete assigned individual or group reports.

Suggested Reflection Questions**Content/Thinking**

- What was the most important thing that your tribe learned?
- How can your tribe's discovery be applied elsewhere?

Social

- What was difficult for your group to do?
- What was most interesting?

Personal

- What feelings did you have during your tribe's presentation?
- What makes this a good way to learn about a topic?

Appreciation

Invite statements of appreciation:

- "I liked it when...."
- "I appreciated the way our group...."