

"Hey Joe, What do you know?"

This activity is a great formative assessment piece that always generates a lot of energy! "Hey Joe, What do you know?" can be used at any time and no prep time is involved and gives immediate feedback of individual student knowledge.

Procedure:

Divide the class into as many groups as desired or leave together as one large group. I recommend groups of 6-10 students each. My classes are generally small, so I usually divide them in half resulting in approximately 8 students per group.

Each group can use each other but not their notes, text books, or any other source to come up with key concepts of the lesson they are currently learning about.

The objective is to generate as many different concepts that they can remember on the board in a given amount of time, usually 6 minutes. Each student within the group must contribute something to the board (usually different colored markers work to keep track).

When time is called they each must explain one of the concepts generated. This is also timed, usually another 6 minutes, and they decide the sequence of presentation (on the spot). Sometimes I alternate and have each person present someone else's concept.

As students give their answers I will usually dig for deeper understanding by asking them to connect ideas with other concepts, or use how or why questions.



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Mrs. Steiner, 2007