8 IDEAS TO ENERGIZE YOUR ONLINE CLASSROOM

It’s never been more of a challenge to keep students engaged when studying at home. Below are some ways to adapt some favourite classroom activities so that they can work online!

by Kendal Rolley

1. **FOUR CORNERS**
   Use **Flipgrid Manipulatives** as a teacher-led way to move student names, categories or whatever you like around the screen. You can also use a shared Google Slides presentation to let students move their own avatar / name to a designated zone that represents a particular viewpoint. You can use breakout rooms to discuss further!

2. **INSIDE / OUTSIDE**
   Breakout rooms are a way to facilitate student-on-student discussion in a synchronous environment. You can also use Google Docs and ask students to comment on each others’ answers, or use **Flipgrid** as a way to create audiovisual feedback with commenting features, and the opportunity for students to provide response videos.

3. **JIGSAW GROUPS**
   Students have both a ‘home group’ breakout room and ‘expert group’ breakout room. Students move into ‘expert groups’ to discuss a particular question / element then move back to their home group breakout room, teaching their group members.

4. **ENTRY AND EXIT TICKETS**
   Use the confirmation message function of Google Forms to provide the meeting code, meaning students can only enter the lesson once they’ve provided you with previous knowledge of a topic. You can use **Padlet** to brainstorm what students have learned in a lesson (and use this as a review of content in the following lesson), or **Flipgrid** to mix things up.

5. **FLIP THE QUESTION**
   **Flipgrid Quiz Show** could allow you to create a Jeopardy style game where the answers to the main plenary questions of the lesson are provided, and students have to provide a question that matches. The teacher becomes the quiz show host, and allows students to engage with the material in a fun way.

6. **CHAIN NOTES**
   **Padlet** can provide an opportunity for students to provide anonymous comments on a topic, that can still be moderated by the teacher for quality control.

7. **LEARNING STATIONS**
   Set different activities designed to teach content in different ways, and let students make the decision on which order to do them. Take a look at activities available on **Flipgrid**, and get create with other edtech offerings. Support can be provided by establishing activity-specific breakout rooms, allowing students to pop in and ask questions of you or other students when needed. Hint: make sure you enable the self-selection function in Zoom.

8. **KWHL**
   This would make sense as a set discussion topics within a Google Form for students to reflect on their learning, as per the entry tickets, you could also set a phrase (maybe even related to the LOs) as the submission note and get students to PM you this to certify they’ve completed the lesson.