

Alphabet Relay

Materials:

- Two large posters with the letters A - Z on them
- Markers
- Tape for "starting line" (optional)

Procedure:

The purpose of Alphabet Relay is to get students working as a team to generate words and ideas responding to a prompt or question, for instance, "*What makes a good friend?*" or "*Why do teens...*" "*Some signs of depression/dating violence/substance use are...*"

Start with two posters lettered A - Z down the side, leaving room to write after each letter. Place the posters side by side where the students can easily reach and write on them (taped to a wall, on a large table, etc.). Divide students into two teams and explain that they are going to run a relay race, and the first team to complete their poster will be the winner. Students line up behind the starting line, and the first student in line is given a marker. When you say "GO!" the first student in line runs to the poster and fills in a word (or short phrase) starting with the letter A. She then runs back to her line and hands off the marker/baton to the next student, who fills in the letter B, and so forth. Students must fill out the letters in alphabetical order, no skipping letters!

The first team to fill out their entire poster from A to Z is the winner, but you can let the other team finish their poster, as their responses will still be used in the reflection portion. After each team has completed their alphabet, invite the class to gather around the posters where everyone can see them.

REFLECT:

Describe: "Let's look at our two alphabets together. What words do we see? Are there any of the same or similar words/ideas on both alphabets?" (Circle words that are similar or repeated)

Analyze: "What words have we circled? What do these words tell us about what our group thinks about our topic?"

Relate: This should be a questions or prompt that connects the students' responses back to the content, i.e. "Knowing that friendship is about X, Y, and Z, what are things we do that show that someone is our friend?"