

Purpose: To engage more deeply with a text or professional reading through substantive discussion.

Groups: Groups of four – one person designated facilitator to keep the group focused and moving through the process. A recorder of questions.

Timing: Allow up to an hour for the process (depending on the length of the text) plus some time for debriefing.

Steps:

1. **Silent Reading:** Participants have time to read the text in silence, making brief notes about aspects that they particularly notice. A ‘coding’ strategy may be offered to assist with the noticing. (10-20 mins
~ length of text)
2. **Noticing what’s in the text:** Group members take turns to respond to the prompt: ‘What struck me in this text was....’. Each person has two minutes to share with the group without being interrupted and share why these aspects of the text caught their attention. (8 mins)
3. **Questions about the text?** The facilitator invites the group to share questions the text has raised for them. The recorder writes these on a vertical surface. Both facilitator and recorder contribute. (6 mins)
4. **Dialogue prompted by the questions:** The facilitator invites the group to engage in a dialogue prompted by the questions to further grapple with the concepts and ideas raised in the text. The aim is to build upon each other’s thinking, consider different perspectives and question further to make connections. (8 mins)
5. **Implications of the text for our work?** The facilitator invites everyone to share any thoughts they have about ways this particular text might influence their work as teachers and leaders. (8 mins)
6. **Debriefing and Reflecting:** How did the process work for you? How might you use this process with students or colleagues?