

Choral Response

Description:

Choral Response is a verbal repetition strategy that encourages students to respond in unison when prompted with a cue by an instructor. The oral response can be either to answer a question or to repeat something said by the teacher. The choral response allows the teacher to determine if most students understand a concept.

Ideal for curriculum content that:

- can be answered in short 1-3 word responses.
- has only a single correct answer to the question.
- is presented in a fast paced manner.



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How to Use the Strategy:

1. Teacher introduces choral responding by providing clear directions to entire class, detailing the frequency, length, and level of noise required for appropriate responses.
2. Lesson is initiated with class, reviewing key concepts or phrases to be learned utilizing a “my turn, your turn” modeling approach.
3. A clear and consistent cue is identified by the instructor for when students should respond as a group to either a question or a repeated phrase. A cue may be a raised hand to the ear, thumbs up, or pointing to a certain word or object on a white board.
4. Instructor may choose to institute a “thinking pause” of 3-5 seconds before giving students their signaled cue to respond based on the difficulty of the information being taught to the class.
5. If applicable, students break into small groups and instruct each other, reciting the key phrases or questions supplied by the teacher during the initial instructional period. Student leader of each group utilizes the cue provided by instructor as a prompt for students to reply to the key phrase or question.