

THE GREAT DEBATE



1. Divide students into groups of 4.
2. Give each group items to classify.
3. Give each group chart paper to label and organize their items into a classification scheme.
4. Once each group has their items organized, have them choose 2 students to stay (to defend their group's choices) and 2 students to go (to travel to other groups).
5. The 2 students who "go" will travel to another group to learn about their classification schemes. (You may want to give the 2 travelers a notecard to record their own chart and to take notes on other groups' charts.)
6. Have the 2 travelers from each group rotate clockwise to the next group.
7. Set a classroom timer for 4 minutes. During this time, students compare & debate their answers. When the time is up, the 2 travelers move on to the next group.
8. Once the 2 travelers are back home, back to their original group, they share their findings with the group.
9. The group makes a final decision by gluing their cards to the chart paper.