

Save the Last Word for Me Routine Directions

Objective: Help each other further our understanding of a text

Directions:

Starting Position

Individually and silently, each person should identify a quote from the text or a key point from the lesson that resonates with them.

Action Pattern

1. Decide who is going first and who will go second, establishing a direction to share around in a circle.
2. Begin by having the first person read out loud her/his quote - only the quote, offering no other comment.
3. Go around in a circle giving each person a chance to say how the quote resonates or connects with her/him.
4. Finish by having the first person who read the quote say why they selected the quote - "Saving the last word" for the person who began the round.
5. Repeat the pattern with each person around in the circle.
6. Debrief - Discuss, "What new discoveries were made about the text? How did this conversation further your thinking?"

Return

Reread the quote that was initially chosen, record how thinking about the quote has stayed the same or changed through the discussion.

This protocol is based on Save the last work for me from the National School Reform Web site http://www.nsrffharmony.org/protocol/doc/save_last_word.pdf.