

PUTTING FOCUS ON COOPERATION INTO PRACTICE

1. Begin with your own experiences.
 - How do you feel about cooperating and collaborating?

 - Are cooperative activities familiar to you from your family or from your school experience?

 - What are the most effective cooperation strategies you have already incorporated into your classroom?

2. Thinking of each of your students, consider cooperative activities from the diverse perspectives they may have.
 - What might influence their interest in and skills with cooperative learning?

 - Have they done this before?

- Do they feel a sense of belonging enough to trust others in a group project?

- Is this something their families may value, or not? Do families expect boys and girls to have the same roles as leaders?

- How do you respond to differences in expectations between school and families?

3. How do you make time for cooperative activities?

- What other barriers do you find to helping your students learn to cooperate?

- How do you overcome them?