

## Learning Partners

### Facilitator Moves

#### PROCESS

- Distribute a page on which spaces are provided to sign up four partners.
- Explain that learning partners will be used for standing conversations or sometimes to regroup and sit with a partner at a new location.
- Demonstrate asking a member to be your partner, writing the member's name on your page, and the member writing your name on the member's page.
- Members will sit when they have all four partners.
- Give an expectation for the amount of time this will take, perhaps 90 seconds.
- When most are seated, get the group's attention.
- Ask if anyone is missing a partner for the number 1 choice. If two raise their hands, make them partners. If only one raises a hand, indicate that he or she should go to the front of the room when that partner choice is called, signaling that he or she is available if another person cannot locate a partner at that time. If no one appears, he or she should join the "brightest" pair.

cont.

## ALTERNATIVES

- Develop your own partner symbols (e.g. hats, sports teams) to reflect the culture or location of the group.
- Other partner systems: Call for eye contact partners (someone sitting at a table different from yours with whom you make eye contact), shoes partner (different shoes from yours), or color partner (matching clothing color)

## TIPS

- When announcing a partner search, remind members to come to the front of the room if they are not able to find one's partner.

## NOTES AND APPLICATIONS

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