

ACTIVITY 3.1: TRIAD LITERATURE CHAT

One tip for exploring the literature shared in Chapter 3 is to take the time to summarize and synthesize one's reading. This activity helps readers carve out the time to do so by reflecting on three questions related to their readings and subsequently sharing their reflections in groups of three.

Time: 45–60 minutes

Preparation: Have readers complete Chapter 3's Exercise 1 on page 79 of *The Reflective Educator's Guide to Classroom Research: Learning to Teach and Teaching to Learn* (4th ed.): "Using the search strategies we described in this chapter, find and read three to five reputable pieces of literature related to your inquiry topic." Have readers bring these pieces and any notes they took on them to this activity for reference.

Step 1: Reflection (10–15 minutes). Provide silent time to complete the handout titled "Reflecting on the Literature." NOTE: This step could be completed as preparation, to shorten the amount of time this activity takes.

Step 2: Form discussion groups of three. (1–5 minutes). This could be done by randomly counting off, or by having readers form their own groups of three by finding two other individuals who are pursuing inquiry topics of interest to them.

Step 3: Literature Chat (5 minutes per person; 15 minutes total). Each group member has 5 minutes to share the topic of his or her inquiry, name the readings he or she has completed related to his or her topic to date, as well as share his or her responses to the three question prompts on the worksheet.

Step 4: Debrief (3–5 minutes). After each member of the triad has shared his or her response to literature he or she has read related to his or her inquiry topic, the group discusses any themes/commonalities they noticed in the types of insights all three members gained from reading literature and the impact reading has had on their learning.

Step 5: Whole Group Discussion (5–10 minutes). Groups share insights gained.

See the handout "Reflecting on the Literature" that follows.

REFLECTING ON THE LITERATURE

1. Complete the following statement: The piece of literature that I found and read so far that I believe has provided the greatest insights for the topic of my inquiry is _____.

- Why this piece?

2. Take the Literature Challenge by responding to the following two prompts:

- In what ways has the literature you have read so far *challenged your thinking* about the topic of your inquiry?

- In what ways would you like to *challenge the authors' thinking* that is presented in any of the studies you have read based on your experience as a classroom teacher?

- Complete the following statement: My most significant take-away from the readings I have completed so far is _____.

_____. How can this take-away from your reading be taken-into your inquiry journey?
