12.7

Sample Professional Development Activity: Grouping Strategy

(Shape Partners)

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| **Professional development focus or topic**: Strategy for grouping participants in order to hear multiple perspectives and to include physical movement. |
| **Intended audience:** Whole group of teachers (any grade) |
| **Outcomes:** Teachers will be able to …   * Meet colleagues participating in the professional development * Understand perspectives of other participants |
| **Preparation:**   * Copy the Shape Partners handout provided on the next page, one for each participant. |
| **Description of activity:**   * Give a Shape Partners handout to each participant. * Explain that they will roam around the room and identify four people (not currently sitting at their table) to be their shape partners. For example, find a partner that has a shape available. Each participant writes the other’s name on that shape. When they have different names for each shape, they can return to their seat. * Sometimes, it will work out that not everyone gets a name for all four shapes. Explain that this is fine. When you ask participants to find their trapezoid shape, for example, if they do not have a name or their partner is absent, they can come to the front of the room and you can facilitate finding partners. If everyone is partnered, ask them to join a group to make a trio. * This strategy can be used for stand-up conversations, or partners can find a place to sit with their new partner for an extended activity.   *Note*: You can use this activity to form groups for the rest of the session, or you can have participants return to their original table group. |

NOTES

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