



Planting the Seed A Text Protocol

Developed in the field by educators.

This protocol offers the opportunity for readers to “grow” interpretations of text through conversations with others.

1. Readers read a text and identify two significant ideas (one idea and a back up).
2. On a ½ sheet of card stock, a large post it, or a large index card, write your name as well as record one idea and page number on each side. Write small enough that others can write below the quote.
3. Everyone will stand up and identify a partner to share a quote. After the chooser of the quote shares, the two engage in a conversation about what that quote may mean and what interpretations may arise. The chooser of the quote takes notes on the card immediately below the quote.
4. Switch roles. If the new partner has the same quote that has been chosen, use the back-up that you identified.
5. After the sharing has completed, bid adieu, switch cards and find another place to plant the seed that you have now been given (someone else’s quote).
6. Repeat: read the quote you now have (read only the quote, not the notes) and engage in a conversation.
7. Switch.
8. Facilitator can choose how long to plant seeds.
9. At the conclusion of the planting, everyone needs to find the owner of the card.
10. Spend a few moments reading the newly-constructed text and identify any changes or affirmations in thinking that may have occurred.

Debrief the process of Planting the Seed.