

Connections Activity

Title/Skill:	Change Up/problem solving
Connection Goal:	Academic
Grade Level:	9-12
Month:	
Time Needed:	25 min

Handouts/Materials Provided:
Cards with numbers

Summary of Activity for the Advisor:

1. Each student is given a card. Tell the students not to look at them until told to do so. The students will be given a series of challenges and the goal is to implement a solution as quickly as possible without talking and they will be timed.
2. Challenge 1: Tell students “turn your card over and line up in numerical order from smallest to largest. When complete, tell them their time...this will be the benchmark.
3. Have the group trade cards at least three times so they end up with a different card for the next challenge. Repeat challenge #1.
4. Challenge 2: Line up alphabetically by the first letter of the number on the card. When lined up, give the time. Trade cards and repeat challenge.
5. Challenge 3: Line up in two lines-odd numbers in one line, even in the other-odds descending order and evens in ascending order numerically. Report the time to the group and repeat.

Read/Review/Discuss/Do with students:

- What strategies did the group develop to implement effective solutions?
- What was the consequence of change during the activity? Was it different if the changes were “minor” (i.e. shuffling the cards, but the same numbers were always in use) or “major” (i.e. changing from lining up numerically to lining up alphabetically)?
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