**Four Corners**

This cooperative-learning technique has students make a decision about a problem or question. Four corner of the classroom (or 4 areas distanced apart to allow discussion) is labeled with a different response (strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree). Students move to the corner of the room that best describes their answer. The students in each corner share their ideas with others that align with their thinking and then come to a consensus. One member of each group shares the result with the entire class.

**How to use:**

1. Present a statement, issue, or question

2. Provide four different responses (strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree), and place one response in each corner of the classroom.

3. Give students at least 10 seconds to think on their own.

4. Ask students to choose the corner with the response that best represents their point of view.

5. Ask students to pair with a classmate in their corner and share the reasons behind their decision.

6. Ask each group to come to consensus and select one person to share the group’s reasoning and decision with the whole class.

**When to use:**

- At the beginning of a block of instruction that students should already be familiar with from previous grade or previous assignment to determine the overall knowledge retained in a subject.

- When students are faced with a controversial subject in social studies

- To discuss experimental results in science

- Reviewing chapter discussion questions after a reading assignment

- Discussing setting, plot, theme and characters in a book

**Variations:**

4 Corners Debate. Students use the same directions to select a corner. After students have settled in their corners the teacher takes half of each population and move them to the corner that directly contradicts with the ideas. The students in each corner will then debate and share the decision to the class.