

Kagan Strategy: Rally Coach*

Steps for the Strategy

1. Pair Shoulder Partners. Determine who is A and who is B.
2. Present a problem for which there is only one correct answer.
3. Partner A solves the problem while Partner B coaches, checks the accuracy of the answer and praises.
4. If the answer is incorrect, Partner B coaches Partner A to the correct answer.
5. Present a new one-answer-only problem.
6. Partner B solves the problem while Partner B coaches, checks the accuracy of the answer and praises.
7. Repeat from step 1.

Management Tips

1. Use only one sheet of paper and pencil to ensure that the partner who coaches, focuses on coaching.
2. A sheet defining the roles of each partner may be helpful when first using this strategy with students.
3. Model good coaching for the students, including the difference between coaching and giving the answer.
4. Shoulder partners work better than face partners, making it easier for both students to view the paper.

Social Skills

1. Coaching
2. Patience
3. Requesting and offering help
4. Giving and accepting praise
5. Appropriate noise level
6. Giving and accepting constructive criticism

*Based on various materials available from Kagan Publishing.