

## **Designing Effective Projects: Cooperative Learning Brainstorming**

### **Brainstorming Structures**

The use of cooperative brainstorming is an effective and valuable strategy that calls upon teams of students to brainstorm thoughts and build upon one another's flow of ideas in a safe environment. With creative groupings, students have opportunities to work together and learn important content at the same time. Dr. Spencer Kagan, an expert on cooperative grouping structures has created a myriad of cooperative grouping structures to use with students of all ages. The main goal of these structures is to promote:

- Participation in structured interactions
- Equal participation
- Student interaction
- Effective communication
- Cooperative learning as part of any lesson

Through many years of research and training, Dr. Spencer Kagan has refined and developed over 160 structures. All of these give teachers a well planned way to group students and teach them important content in engaging ways.

Check out Dr. Kagan's Web site to read articles and learn more about these brainstorming structures: [www.kaganonline.com/KaganClub/FreeArticles.html](http://www.kaganonline.com/KaganClub/FreeArticles.html)\*