

Think-Pair-Share

What it is:

A thought-provoking question is posed to students who think about the answer then discuss it with their neighbors.

Implementation:

- Ask a question
- Students think about or write down their answer (usually 1-2 minutes)
- Students pair up
- Students share their thoughts with each other and discuss the answer
- Instructor can ask for responses from some, all, or no pairs

The question:

- Promotes student engagement
- Facilitates informal assessment

Examples include

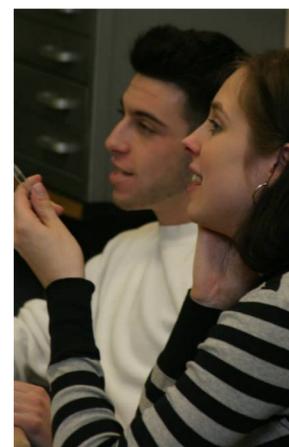
- **Image Interpretation:** Interpret the geologic history of the rocks shown in this image.
- **Graph Interpretation:** From the plot of weathering depth vs. age for limestone in tombstones, estimate the mean weathering rate.
- **Open-ended question:** How do we know what the climate was like before people started keeping track?
- **More examples at:**
<http://serc.carleton.edu/16225>



Think individually



Form small groups & discuss



Share with larger group

References

King, A. (1993). From Sage on the Stage to Guide on the Side. *College Teaching*, 41, 30-35.

Lyman, F. (1987) Think-Pair-Share: An expanding teaching technique. *MAA-CIE Cooperative News*, 1, 1-2.
Starting Point. Think-Pair-Share. *Teaching Entry Level Geoscience*.

<http://serc.carleton.edu/introgeo/interactive/tpshare.html>