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

References

Starting Point. Think-Pair-Share. *Teaching Entry Level Geoscience.*
http://serc.carleton.edu/introgeo/interactive/tpshare.html