Sample Suggested Strategies to Initiate Group Activities

- Create groups with a division/remainder problem
- Introduce with a quotient
- Poison (with coins) - Is it predetermined?
- Graphing calculators - (algebra/HS) - developing the quadratic formula
- Arithmetic - one circle and five squares = 50
- Locker problem
- Broken Squares - reflection, discuss, then establish norms for our own group
- Master Designer - tangrams
- Cups - stack the cups, know the design
- Groups choose a problem to display/show for the class, 10 points for correct/incorrect/don't know - more of a strategy for encouraging collaborative groupwork

- How do we generate a list of strategies that teachers can use in their classroom?
  - Think pair share,
  - Sharing and expert share out
  - How do we make group work different
  - Individual think time into group think time
  - Assigning group a different piece of a task
  - Jigsaw
  - Carousel
  - Complete different tasks and be the expert to share

- Doing activities with single, pairs, larger groups - what are the advantages
- Write a letter to the person who was missing, share letters, choose the best
- 3 Boys video - conversation - just because you put kids in a group doesn't mean that they are working well, how would you fix it?
- Show effective groupwork and how it could be shared effectively with the whole class
- What does success look like with effective groupwork? How will you know if it was successful?
- Model the process with a math task and the participants. Show what the facilitator does. What was I thinking? Why did I do this? What was I hoping? How did I help you by....?
- Connect to math practices, habits of mind

Books and Resources:

- Activities that Teach (and More Activities that Teach)