

# Formative Assessment Techniques

TO EMPLOY STUDENTS AS LEARNING RESOURCES FOR EACH OTHER

## C 3 B 4 M E

### Materials

- NA

This technique encourages students to become learning resources for one another. C3B4ME is an effective method for introducing students to the idea of the classroom as a learning community.



Illustration provided by Microsoft

### Procedure

C3B4ME requires a student to seek assistance from at least three other students before approaching the teacher for help.

Before establishing C3B4ME as a classroom process, students need an understanding of the difference between giving an answer and giving an explanation.

Adapted  
from:

### **Embedded Assessment**

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Solution Tree  
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### Answers vs. Explanations

When they become learning resources for one another, both those students giving assistance and those receiving assistance will gain from the process as long as the helper provides careful explanations rather than answers. However, if the helper does not elaborate and simply provides the answer, not only does the helper not make any gains in learning, but the student seeking help may drop in achievement.