The Basics! Minute Paper

Boosting your teaching and learning game is all about being a growth-minded educator. If you are a pro at the "Minute Paper" strategy, it is time for you to level up! Select an adaptation from below and up your game.

Traditional Minute Paper

The minute paper provides an opportunity to quickly make sure learners understood the main point of the lesson.

Provide the Prompt

Provide a very clear question for learners to answer. This provides formative feedback for you, as well as the learners.

Set The Timer

Set your timer for 60 seconds and allow learners to anonymously respond to the prompt. Collect responses when time is up.

Sample Prompts

Prompts can change each time you present a minute paper. For example, prompts may include: "What was the most confusing part of today's session?" or "Write down three key things learned today," or "How might you apply what you learned today in a real-world context?"

Timing

Minute papers can be used at any point in the session. The beginning of the session, a natural break in content, or the end of the session are typical times to complete a minute paper.

Group Discussion

One way to start a group discussion is to first have learners complete a minute paper. This provides learners an opportunity to process their thoughts prior to the discussion.

Follow Up with Feedback

After collecting information from the learners, it is important to close the loop and follow up about what learners wrote. If there is a common theme of misunderstood concepts, start the next session with clarifying information or email to clarify so learners have quicker feedback.

Once you are proficient with the Minute Paper, check out the Level Up! card.