

# SAVE THE LAST WORD FOR ME

Discussion Strategies for Various  
Learning Environments



OLATHE PUBLIC SCHOOLS USD

# Save the Last Word for Me

Let's discuss!

## In-Person or with Safety Measures in Place

1. Assign a section of text.
2. Ask students to find three to five quotes from the text that they think are particularly interesting.
3. The quotes may be something they agree or disagree with, something they find interesting, something they didn't know, something they would like to tell someone about, etc.  
\* For elementary students, only have them prepare one quote.
4. Pass out index cards or slips of paper to each student, one card for each quote they have found.
5. On one side of the card, ask students to write down the statements from the text. On the other side, instruct them to write any comments or feelings about their statements.
6. Divide the class into groups of 3-5 students. All students in the group can share one of their quote cards.
7. The first student reads one of their quotes to the group and shows where to locate it in the text. However, the student isn't allowed to make any comments about his or her quote until the other members of the group give their reactions.
8. The student gets the last word in the discussion of the statement. This process continues until everyone in the group has shared at least one quote and has provided the last word in the discussion.

\*This can be done with social distancing and students wearing masks.

## Online Learning

1. Students can follow steps 1 and 2 as written.
2. For step 3, you can:
  - utilize breakout rooms for small group discussions
  - students could share their quote on a Google Doc and read other students' responses before sharing their own thoughts on the quote.
  - students could record their quotes on Flip Grid and the other students in their group could respond to their video. The student could then go in a share their thoughts.