

Strategies for Small Group Teaching

FacDev in 5 KEY TAKEAWAYS



Watch the FacDev in 5 Video featuring Dr. Miriam Post, Professor of Pathology and Assistant Dean for Faculty Affairs. tinyurl.com/FD5-SmallGroups

KEY TAKEAWAYS



Strategies for impactful teaching in small groups.

1

Create a Safe and Inclusive Environment

Set respectful ground rules, use names, and validate contributions so learners feel safe to engage.

2

Use Structured, Case-Based Activities

Center sessions on real-world scenarios with guiding questions that let learners lead.

3

Facilitate, Don't Dominate

Ask open-ended questions, encourage all voices, and let learners wrestle with uncertainty.

4

Adapt to Group Dynamics

Stay flexible, observe dynamics, and use quick feedback to adjust in real time.

5

Reflect and Debrief

Close with learner reflections to reinforce lessons and build critical thinking.



DIVE DEEPER

Burgess, A. Facilitating small group learning in the health professions (BMC Med Educ 2020).

Meo, S. Basic steps in establishing effective small group teaching sessions in medical schools (Pak J Med Sci 2013).

Mir, M. et al. A practical approach for successful small group teaching in medical schools with student centered curricula (J Adv Med Educ Prof 2019).

