

How does it work?

Students collect information on a topic from their classmates and then check and revise their findings. It is ideal for checking understanding at the end of a unit or for revising a topic.

Who's it for?

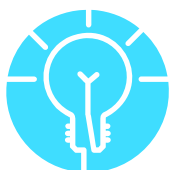
It works best with groups of at least ten students. It is suitable for all abilities and ages.

What you need ...

- a circle of chairs facing outwards and a second circle of chairs facing inwards (opposite the inner circle!), if this is not possible in then pairs of stools facing each other around the lab.
- paper and pens.

Step by step

- Students in the inner circle take on the role of 'experts' and the students in the outer circle are 'investigators'. The investigators will each need paper and a pen.
- Each investigator is allocated (or chooses) a question about the topic. This could be a specific question, but higher demand ones (describe, explain, compare) will of course generate more opportunities for the experts to explain their understanding.
- Each investigator sits opposite an expert and asks their question. They should note down the answer given.
- Allow a set amount of time (two minutes should be enough) and then the investigators each move one seat to their left.
- When they have come full circle, each investigator pairs up with one expert and has a chance to research any of the answers they have been given, before presenting their findings to the whole class.

Further teaching ideas ...

After the presentations you could re-run the Q&A session but this time allocate the questions to the original 'expert' group.