

## Strategies/Skills for Collaborative and Group Work

To effectively work in a group, students need to learn how to...

- be an active listener
  - eye contact & focusing on the speaker
  - paraphrase what you heard
- respect others
- accept differences
- resolve conflicts
  - be aware of their level of emotion
  - use I-messages
- manage stress
- set goals
- encourage him/herself
- use names
- compromise
- share / be considerate of others
  - take turns
  - asking nicely
  - looking for others who might need the item they just finished using
  - not keeping resources to self for extended time
- show appreciation
- disagree politely
- discuss something without being aggressive
  - focus on the idea not the person who suggested it
  - use I-messages
  - don't attack idea or person
- respond to ideas
- say nice things
- invite participation
- check for agreement
- stay in own space
- stay on task
- contribute ideas
- check for understanding
- help others without giving the answer

These skills are needed by all students not just High Ability students. However, listening to other ideas and being willing and able to compromise can be more challenging for these children.

Resources:

Promising Curriculum and Instructional Practices for High-Ability Learners Manual, Nebraska Department of Education, [www.nde.state.ne.us](http://www.nde.state.ne.us)

IDOE: Guiding Students with High Abilities: Social and Emotional Considerations , 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition  
Aligning Indiana Code Requirements with Best Practice in Meeting the Needs of Students with High Ability

*Transformative Classroom Management*. By John Shindler. 2009 , Chapter 12: Managing the Cooperative Classroom, <http://web.calstatela.edu/faculty/jshindl/cm/Chapter12CooperativeLearning-final.htm>