



## **STICK TO YOUR ROLE**

**BIG IDEA:** Giving students roles when they work in groups facilitates working together effectively by creating a safe, transparent process for everyone.

**OVERVIEW:** Whenever students are to do something in groups, the teacher introduces the roles and responsibilities that each student will have. Students choose their initial roles, knowing that their roles may change.

**BENEFITS:** There are a host of benefits to using this technique:

- It increases safety by making everyone's responsibilities transparent and matter-of-fact
- It gives all students a job, encouraging them to opt in
- It helps students focus on the task versus personality clashes
- It increases student satisfaction with group work

**TIME:** 5-10 minutes

**PREPARATION:** 0-5 minutes

### **PROCEDURE: (REVIWING LAST CLASS)**

1. Put students into groups of 4.
2. Introduce the roles:
  - Roller – roles the die
  - Questioner – asks the question
  - Answerer – answers the question
  - Swapper – Swaps the roles of everyone
3. Show the students the six questions:
  1. What's something you remember from the last chapter?
  2. What was happening in the plot that we thought was important?
  3. What new characters appeared and what did we learn about them?
  4. What aspects of foreshadowing did we notice?
  5. What was your favorite part?
  6. How does this chapter support the books theme, coming of age?
4. Pass out the dice.
5. The process begins.
6. Afterwards, the teacher can review as a whole class.

### **VARIATIONS:**

- Vary the roles: scribe, time keeper, manager, etc.
- Have students come up with the roles and responsibilities for each.