

# Philosophical Chairs Strategy

## **Purpose:**

- Increase student engagement
- Improve reading comprehension, vocabulary and higher level questioning abilities

## **How:**

- Teacher selects reading passage, problem, scenario
- Teacher pairs /groups students
- Students read passage
- Each student must make a comment or statement and refer back to the passage....must use part of the text!
- Students formulate a question.....must be a high level question.

## **Extend the Lesson:**

- Questions can be collected from each group to form the basis of another activity such as a quiz, test, debate

## **Teacher Tips:**

- Think about how to pair or group students in advance to maximize lesson.
- Can be used to “jigsaw” a section, a chapter or a unit.
- Think about providing an example of a lower level and higher level question.
- Think about how this replaces LECTURE/NOTES.