

How does it work?

Students collect information on a topic from their classmates and then check and revise their findings. Ideal for checking understanding at the end of a unit.

Who's it for?

Groups of at least ten students. All abilities and ages.

What you need ...

One circle of chairs facing outwards and a second circle of chairs facing inwards (opposite the inner circle!). 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 more open ones will of course generate more opportunities for the experts to explain their ideas.
- 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 ...

You might like to pair up investigators with the 'expert' who gave either the strongest or weakest answer to their question.

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