Save the Last Word for Me

To provide a structure to discuss information and ideas in the text and to make connections to and evaluations of the information presented in the text.

Procedure:

1. Students read a designated text.
2. After reading, students complete index cards with the following information:

Side 1: Each student selects an idea, phrase, quote, concept, fact, etc. from the text that evokes a response. It can be something new, something that comes from previous ideas, or something with which he or she disagrees. Each student writes the selection on side 1 and indicates the page number where it can be found in the text.

Side 2: Each student writes his or her reaction to what was written on side 1.

1. Students gather in small groups to discuss their information.
2. Students discuss using the following procedure: A student reads Side 1 of his or her card; each student in the group responds to the information shared. The student who authored the card gets the last word by sharing side 2 of his or her card. The process is repeated until everyone in the group has shared.