

Activity #1

Making Space with TRIZ

Groups of 4-6 people

Purpose:

The purpose of this activity is to help a group “clear space for innovation” by identifying, naming, and then letting go of behaviors, actions or processes that get in the way of achieving their actual purpose. We adjusted the activity to focus on your overall purpose of professional learning and what gets in the way of achieving the results you want to achieve. Our overarching question is: *How would we design and implement professional learning in our schools so that it that has absolutely no impact on teacher practice and student learning?*

Source (adapted from):

<http://www.liberatingstructures.com/6-making-space-with-triz/>

Process:

1. Review the purpose of the activity. (3 minutes)
2. Individually, create a list of all the actions we would take if we wanted to have the least impactful professional learning possible. *What would we do if we wanted to design teacher learning so it never reaches teachers and students?* (5 minutes)
3. Discuss your list in pairs and identify trends across both your lists. (10 minutes)
4. Form a larger group of 4 or 6 people (whole table) and start charting trends across all the pairs. (10 minutes)
5. In pairs, review the table’s list and identify what you are actually already doing. (5 minutes)
6. Talk as a table about what each pair identified, marking the activities on the list that you agree all currently do. (5 minutes)
7. Identify a next step to improve the way you are planning professional development. What do you need to stop doing? (5-7 minutes)