

Document D

Marzano's (2001) Classroom Instruction that Works

Informal groups (e.g., pair-share, turn-to-your-neighbor) are ad hoc groups that last from a few minutes to a class period. They can be used to clarify expectations for tasks, focus students' attention, allow students time to more deeply process information, or to provide time for closure (p.89).

Formal groups are designed to ensure that the students have enough time to thoroughly complete an academic assignment; therefore, they may last for several days or even weeks. When using formal groups, the teachers designs tasks to include the basic cooperative learning components (p.90).

Base groups are long-term groups (e.g., for the semester or year) created to provide students with support throughout a semester or an academic year (p.90).