

**What is a World Café?**

An “open space” protocol for talking and thinking more deeply about a particular issue, World Café is designed primarily to generate collective knowledge sharing, webs of personal relationships, and new possibilities for action.

**World Café Protocol**

1. Provide a challenging, open-ended question to the whole group, or provide a different question at each table
   * Example: *How can we prepare our students to compete in a global economy?*
2. At your table share and discuss your responses to this question. Use the chart paper to organize and represent your ideas – use symbols, organizers, pictures, words.
3. Choose a “host”, someone who will stay at the table and articulate what was discussed with the next group.
4. When time is signaled, everyone moves to new tables, mixing with whoever shows up.
5. The host of each table shares what was discussed and new participants add their thoughts and ideas to what was previously discussed; add the ideas to the chart paper.
6. Continue until the time is up.

**Café Etiquette & Tips**

* CONTRIBUTE your thinking and experience
* LISTEN to understand
* CONNECT ideas
* LISTEN TOGETHER for patterns, insights, and deeper questions—notice that individual conversations are part of and contribute to a larger field of collective knowledge and wisdom.
* Have materials available for visually representing key ideas – markers and paper.
* Honor the social nature of learning and community building