Cooperative Learning

Miss Caiafa is one of several teachers in our school who uses cooperative learning strategies to enrich the learning process. Cooperative learning requires all students to get actively involved in what is being taught. Children are not able to be passive participants and just 'drift off'. The strategies require them to engage.

A part of being an effective learner is the requirement to be able to work productively with other members of your team. Teachers have a range of activities they take children though to build the social skills needed to work in a team.

These are photos of children from room 1 doing a team building activity.

Learning – Strategy a Month

Upper Swan Primary School is dedicated to building cooperative learning environments in each and every classroom. A cooperative classroom is one in which the students explore the content, and are active participants in their own, and their team mates learning. As a part of creating this cooperative learning environment, many of the teachers get together once a month at the SAM club. SAM is a place in which cooperative learning strategies are explored and shared. Each month a new strategy is chosen as the focus for teachers to experiment with. Cooperative learning not only makes learning fun, it teaches students how to value their peers diversity, a skill necessary for making the world a better place. Cooperative learning makes school a fun place to be!

The strategy for this month has been ‘Celebrity Interview’. In this strategy students sit with their team mates and write out questions to find out more about each other. In turns, students play the ‘Celebrity’ and have a go at answering the questions. This strategy is particularly great for team building, that is getting to know your team mates so that you can work with them more productively.