

## MAKING MEANING

*A routine for constructing collective meaning of words, ideas, concepts, or events*

*A word, concept, or event is identified as the focus for this routine. Groups then work through each of the following prompts, recording their responses on chart paper to make collective meaning:*

- *Taking turns, each person **responds** to the chosen focus with a single word. Each person's word must be unique so that it adds to the collective meaning.*
- *Each person **adds on** to someone else's word with an additional word or phrase so as to elaborate in some way.*
- *Each person **makes a connection** between ideas that are already written on the chart paper, drawing lines and writing on those lines to illuminate the connections.*
- *Each person **records a question** that arising about the topic of focus based on what is emerging.*
- *Based on the group's "Making-Meaning discussion" on chart paper, each individual now **writes their own definition** of the word, topic, concept, or event being explored.*

