

Luma Connections #25: Cultivate Effective Peer Post Responses

Teaching Tool: Discussion Board

This is an online tool that allows learners to interact with each other to explore a topic and to discuss key concepts and concepts, share experiences, interact with each other, and to ask questions. Interactions are not in real-time and can be mentor-learner and learner-to-learner.



Tip: Cultivate Effective Peer Post Responses

Nudging learners to meaningfully and specifically respond to peers' discussion posts can be a challenge. However, establishing clear and specific guidelines around responding to other learners' discussion posts will foster meaningful conversations and connections that lead to deeper learning.

Here are some tips for helping learners more effectively respond to peers' discussion posts:

- Rate it. Make it a component of the discussion to have peers rate or vote on each other's posts.
- Provide examples and non-examples of discussion post responses. Review these examples and make them accessible for learners to reference.
- Model best practice. Randomly respond to learners' posts and create discussion summaries. **NOTE:** When responding to specific posts, keep it positive and avoid providing public improvement feedback.
- Provide a list of response topics:
 - Provide a link or article with additional information related to the article and provide context.
 - Compliment a specific point made and provide a rationale with evidence.
 - Share something learned and provide a rationale with evidence.
 - Start a friendly debate by providing an alternative perspective with information to support it.

