

# Participant Peer Assessment

## IF Collaborative Discussion Certificate Program Assessment Tool

**How to use:** Participants observe their peers during a discussion activity. They assess observable collaborative discussion practices and record using a standard checklist. Coaches may offer this assessment by appointing different participants to be “observers” or even “secret observers” each discussion.

**“Fishbowl” Adaptation:** Coaches can also create a “fishbowl” experience by creating two groups of participants. One group will be an inside circle and the other group will be in the outer circle. The inner circle will be the “fishbowl” and will participate in a normal collaborative discussion while the outer circle observes using the standard checklist.

Participants can rotate into the fishbowl at various intervals so everyone gets a chance to participate, or the coach can set a time limit for the group to complete a task/have a discussion and then the inner and outer groups flip.

Coaches can review and debrief the checklists with the group to help highlight how collaborative discussion skills manifest in discussions. Most skills or habits of mind have some common observable traits. Being aware of these is helpful for coaches to evaluate the development of skills and for participants to practice these skills moving forward.

[Click here for the Collaborative Discussion Observable Practices Table](#)