

Sharing with Scratch

Brainstorming

Benefits

- Helps to create a safe and open classroom environment
- Provides an easy entry point to participation
- Gets ideas flowing and inspires work

Obstacles

- Students, for whatever reason, won't contribute
- The brainstorm goes off topic and is unfocused
- Brainstorming sessions can consume a lot of time

Strategies

- Break students into small groups to get the conversation going and collect ideas from each group
- Encourage students to build on one another's ideas
- Have a clearly defined problem or question
- Make the problem/question and the ideas/solutions visible for everyone to see
- Have a time limit in mind, and be mindful of it
- Trust your instincts. If it's going well continue to allow students to generate ideas, and if it's not, move on!

