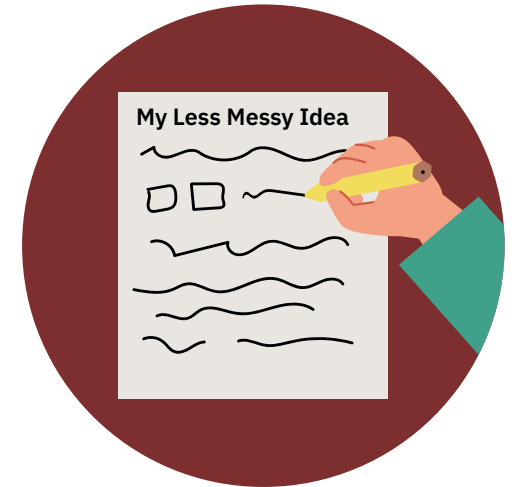


# My Less Messy Idea

## Refine with another mind.

Prompt students to jot down their initial ideas when working on a problem. Then, have them partner up to clarify their original thinking and revise their solution.



### Why Try It



*This nudge allows students to **first explore their ideas in a non-evaluative way**. They can collaborate with peers to revise their thoughts and arrive at a more polished solution, working through ideas in a safer space.*

### MLR 1: Stronger and Clearer Each Time

Students first generate individual ideas about the problem, then seek clarification from peers before revising their solution methods. This process highlights the progression of their thinking.

### Teacher Notes

- The Messy Idea can be words, pictures, fragments, or questions, as long as it gives students a starting point for the problem.
- Consider giving students a goal for their Less Messy Idea (e.g., more formal, clearer) to help focus their conversation.
- These spaces should be used for brainstorming, not necessarily complete solutions.



### Caution

Do not evaluate the “Messy Idea” areas. They should be safe spaces where students can share any ideas related to the problem without judgment.

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