Playing Cards Guidelines

Preparation:

Prior to the workshop, multiple decks of cards need to be created. Steps:

1) Print the Playing Cards Templates file with the double-sided option as every other page is the card cover. NOTE: It is recommended that you use a piece of heavier colored cardstock (more appealing look to the cards). However, plain white paper will work as well.

2) Using a bright light background, check to see if the dark lines of the cards line up on both sides. If not, it may be necessary to adjust the spacing in order to get the cards aligned.

3) Once the cards are aligned, laminate each sheet. Cut the cards allowing for at least a 1/8\textsuperscript{th} inch border outside the dark lines.

4) There should be 3 complete set of cards once they are cut. (1 deck = 30 techniques + 3 wild cards for 33 cards)

5) NOTE: The number of cards in a deck can vary depending on the number of groups. With 3 groups, use one complete deck per group. For more groups, you can either create more decks according to items 1-4 above or divide the decks up with equal numbers of cards per group. There are more cards than cases so just divide the cards among the groups as equally as possible.

Playing the Game:

1) Have the participants break up into small groups (4 people per group works best). Pass out a deck of cards to each small group.

2) Pass out one sheet per person with the list of teaching techniques.

3) Have each group select 4 cards at random. NOTE: Only 4 cards per group and not per person.

4) Tell them that you will show them a slide with a possible teaching situation. Once they have read the slide, the group is to select the best teaching technique from among the 4 previously selected cards.

5) Give the groups about 1 minute to select a card.

6) If a Wild Card should appear, the group is free to use any of the techniques listed on the Teaching Techniques sheet.

7) Have each group report out what technique they selected and briefly why.

8) Tell the groups to discard the card they selected and pick a new card to replace it (there will always be 4 cards to choose from).

9) Show them the next slide/teaching situation and again, select the best card. Repeat steps 5-7.
10) Use as many or as few teaching situations/slides as time permit.

Variations:

1) Only allow the groups to select 2 cards. This makes it more challenging for the groups to select and justify their selection.

2) After each group has reported out, have all participants select the “best of the best” technique card.

3) For a competitive environment, keep score of which group is selected as the “best of the best.” There could be some type of reward for the group with the most selections. NOTE: If competition is used, groups tend to starting picking their own selection instead of the “best of the best.”