

Description of Roles

In POGIL courses, most of the class work is done in groups of about four. The membership of the groups may change. The roles within a group will change to allow everyone an opportunity to try out a role. Here are some roles that are commonly used:

Manager or Facilitator	Manages the group. Ensures that members are fulfilling their roles, that the assigned tasks are being accomplished on time, and that all members of the group participate in activities and understand the concepts. Your instructor will respond to questions from the manager only (who must raise his or her hand to be recognized.)
Reader	Reads the activity out loud to the group. The reader must monitor their volume so that their group can hear them, but other groups are not disturbed. This helps to keep everyone in the group together. The Manager will tell the Reader when it is time to read the next part of the activity.
Recorder/ Presenter/ Spokesperson	Records the names and roles of the group members at the beginning of each activity. Records the important aspects of group discussions, observations, insights, etc. The recorder's report is a log of the important concepts that the group has learned. This person is also responsible for reporting orally to the class when called for in class discussions.
Reflector / Strategy Analyst / Quality Control	Observes and comments on group dynamics and behavior with respect to the learning process. These observations should be made to the manager on a regular basis (no more than 20 minutes between reports) in an effort to constantly improve group performance. The reflector/analyst may be called upon to report to the group (or the entire class) about how well the group is operating (or what needs improvement) and why.
Technician / Equipment Manager	Gathers materials and uses any equipment other than paper and pencil. Performs all technical operations for the group, including the use of a calculator or computer. Unless otherwise instructed, only the technician in each group may operate equipment such as this.
Encourager / Cheerleader	Acknowledges the good ideas and insights of group members (or the group as a whole) through expressions such as "That was a really good point!" at appropriate times.
Sigfig Checker	This role should be self-evident.

Note: Not all roles are assigned on any given day, and additional roles may be assigned to group members as needed.