Card Matching

Goals/Uses:
- Create random partners or small groups
- Build personal and academic/professional connections
- Facilitate specific conversations
- Can be used to reinforce/introduce content
- Offer some movement

Logistics:
- Time: medium—depends on the number of rounds
- Space: a space where people can find their partner is needed
- Materials: matching cards

Directions:
- Shuffle cards and pass one to each person.
- Give people a short amount of time to find their match.
- Once partners are together, give a short task (question to answer, ideas to brainstorm, topic top discuss, etc.).
- As people talk, walk around (listening as you can!) and collect cards.
- Repeat for several rounds.

Suggestions:
- Make sure to have at least one trio of cards in case there is an odd number of people.
- You might also create card matches of 3 or 4 if small group conversations better suit your goals.
- A visual (chart, PPT, etc.) might help people remember question/task once they're talking.
- Consider a variety of cards to use:
  - Non-content specific: playing cards, hotel key cards, etc.
  - (For an adult group) professional-content specific: academic standards, PD vocabulary and definitions, etc.
  - (For a student group) student-content specific content: fractions/decimal equivalents, vocabulary/definitions, states/capitols, etc.