During my culminating event I will use the Kagan Strategy Talking Chips. This activity is a great way to teach students how to take turns when working in groups. Each group (4 to 5 students) will have a third grade example of the final product, self-evaluation rubrics, checklists, and teacher rubrics. Since this is first grade and before introducing the communication strategy time will be allowed for the groups to create questions and ask questions if they do not understand something. Once all students understand the objective they will use the rubrics to pick what they want to be graded on and prioritize the category according to what is important to them. The third grade product is to be used to generate additional grading options if they do not see something on a rubric. Five minutes will be allowed for each student select and prioritize their category. Then the strategy Talking Chips will be done until each group agrees upon five grading categories to be presented to the class list.

**Talking Chips** (communication skills)

*This activity equalizes the opportunity for participation. It also helps the teacher to monitor individual accountability.*

1. Students are asked to discuss a topic in groups.
2. As each student talks, he/she places his/her chip in the center of the table (a pen or pencil will work in place of chips).
3. Once a student finishes talking, he/she cannot talk until every other “chip” has been tossed into the center. If a student doesn’t have anything to share on this particular topic, they can place a chip in the center at the end.
4. When all chips are down, students retrieve their chips and start over.

All non-duplicate categories will be listed on the board with the teacher justifying any additions.

From the list, the whole class will agree on six to eight categories to be used for the final overall project grade.