Pair Programming

"Pair programming is a **dialog** between two people trying to simultaneously program (and analyze and design and test) and understand together how to program better. It is a conversation at many levels, assisted by and focused on a computer... The conversational nature of pair programming also enhances the software development process." - K. Beck, "Extreme Programming Explained"

Working in a team can be more than twice as effective as working alone. You can feed off of each others knowledge and excitement. You can help each other when things go wrong. You can learn from each other and study twice as much material. Sometimes you can finish assignments in less than half the time a single person would take!

Pair programming is a technique where two programmers sit side by side helping each other to complete a project. By working together, syntax errors are more easily avoided, and more importantly logic errors can often be caught before running the program.

In Pair Programming, one programmer is the driver and the other is the navigator. While the driver is typing (i.e., coding) the navigator is making strategic plans and correcting tactical (logical) errors. **Switch jobs every 15 minutes!**

Each partner should **actively communicate** with the other, bouncing ideas off one another, searching for information in the notes or book to solve the current problem (together), reviewing each others typing (in real time), etc. By being able to "multitask", each partner bringing their own view and expertise, the partnership will enable both partners to learn more, and learn "better".