“Good Things I’ve Read”

An activity I’ve used to build community in the classroom is a regular weekly time during class when students can share "Good Things I've Read."  This student-driven activity allows students to informally learn about practical and entertaining texts their colleagues have read.  This short activity generally begins quietly and later builds a sense of community around reading.  Students often share articles, books, and stories about what they've read.

In addition to these methods, I've regularly used group activities, peer editing, speakers from student services, and positive feedback to improve student retention and success.