



Tips and Tactics for Keeping Students Engaged in Learning

Category: Teaching and Learning

Workshop Overview

Following is a general overview of this workshop, including desired participant outcomes, an explanation of the workshop’s alignment with Learning Forward Standards for Professional Learning, and resources that are included in print and electronic form.

Category: Teaching and Learning

Duration: Full workshop – 3 hours

Desired Outcomes:

Participants will...

- Identify the shortcomings of sustained lecturing.
- Describe the causes of students’ struggles to participate in actively engaging lessons.
- Apply several classroom strategies that actively engage students in learning.

Learning Forward Standards for Professional Learning:

- **Learning Communities:** Occurs within learning communities committed to continuous improvement, collective responsibility, and goal alignment.
- **Leadership:** Requires skillful leaders who develop capacity, advocate, and create support systems for professional learning.
- **Resources:** Requires prioritizing, monitoring, and coordinating resources for educator learning.
- **Data:** Uses a variety of sources and types of student, educator, and system data to plan, assess, and evaluate professional learning.
- **Learning Designs:** Integrates theories, research, and models of human learning to achieve its intended outcomes.
- **Implementation:** Applies research on change and sustains support for implementation of professional learning for long term change.
- **Outcomes:** Aligns its outcomes with educator performance and student curriculum standards.

Resources in This Binder:

- Handouts:
 - Handout: Every Pupil Response Method
 - Workshop Agenda
 - Attendee Notes
 - 3-2-1 Evaluation Form
 - Certificate of Completion
- “Think About It” Exercise
- Ready, Set, Go Planning Activity





Topic Outline

Understanding the general flow of topics to be covered is an important part of giving a strong presentation. This allows the presenter(s) to lead effective group discussions and speak extemporaneously. Following are the main topics covered in this PowerPoint presentation. As you prepare to give the workshop, you may want to refer to this page often.

Main Topics:

1. How Students Learn
2. Overt and Covert Behaviors
3. Actively Engaging Your Students: The Basic Strategies
4. Students “On the Bubble”

Subtopics:

1. How Students Learn

- a. Learning Styles
- b. Results from Studies
- c. Problems with Sustained Learning

2. Overt and Covert Behaviors

- a. Overt Behaviors
- b. Covert Behaviors
- c. Words to Engage Students in Covert Behaviors

3. Actively Engaging Your Students: The Basic Strategies

- a. Basic Ways to Actively Engage Your Student
- b. Ways to Make Sure Your Strategies are Successful
- c. Best Time to Put Your Strategies to Work
- d. Other Active Engagement Strategies to Encourage Learning
- e. Benefits of Active Engagement Strategies

4. Students “On the Bubble”

- a. Three Causes Behind the Struggles of Students “On the Bubble”
- b. Ways to Actively Engage Students “On the Bubble”

Presentation Outline



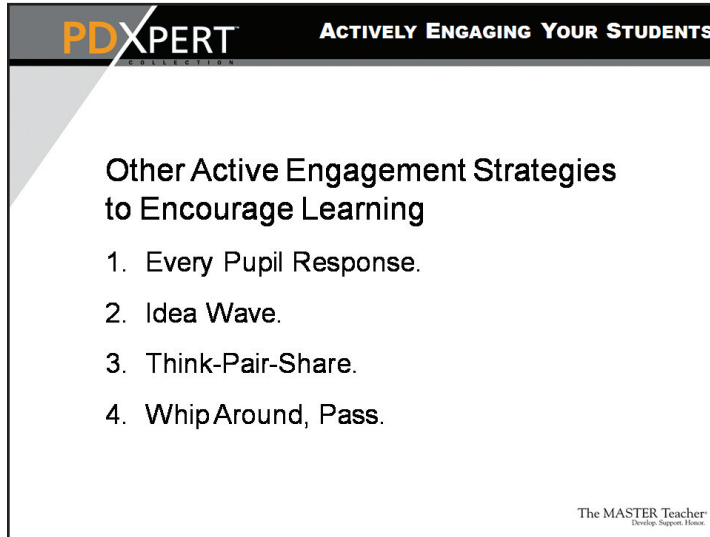
This outline is designed for you to see the PowerPoint presentation at a glance. Note that slide numbers and the approximate amount of time needed per slide are shown in the right two columns. **The times in bold print show the approximate total time needed for that topic, which includes the approximate times for the activities, shown in parentheses.** You might consider keeping this page within reach during the presentation.

Section of Presentation	Slide #	Timing (mins)
Getting Started		
Introduce self, co-teacher, participants	1-2	
Explain materials issued to participants		
Cover objectives (from Workshop Overview)	2	10
Topic 1 – How Students Learn	3-7	40
Discussion Point – What works and what doesn't work when trying to teach students a new concept or idea?		
	4	(5)
Topic 2 – Overt and Covert Behaviors	8-12	40
Discussion Point – What is active engagement?		
	8	(5)
Activity – Engaging Words	12	(20)
Break		
Topic 3 – Actively Engaging Your Students: The Basic Strategies	13-23	70
Quick Write – When is the best time to put these strategies to work?		
	16	(10)
Activity – Plan a Lesson	20	(20)
Topic 7 – Students “On the Bubble”	24-26	15
Closing Remarks	27	5
Total of 2 hours and 45 minutes (not including break)		

Helpful tip!

This workshop can be broken up into shorter sessions so that you can adapt the presentation according to your time constraints.

Slide 18



PDXPERT ACTIVELY ENGAGING YOUR STUDENTS

Other Active Engagement Strategies to Encourage Learning

1. Every Pupil Response.
2. Idea Wave.
3. Think-Pair-Share.
4. Whip Around, Pass.

The MASTER Teacher
Unleash Super Heroes

Let's look at some more helpful engagement strategies.

Every Pupil Response. *Pose a question to your students and give them processing time. Then, at a given signal, ask them to show their answers.*

Tell participants to refer to **Handout: Every Pupil Response Method** for some ways to have pupils respond or show their answers.

Idea Wave. *Ask students to list three to five ideas about the assigned topic. A volunteer begins the "idea wave" by sharing one idea. The student to the left of the volunteer shares one idea. The next student to the left shares another idea. The idea wave continues until all ideas have been shared.*

Think-Pair-Share. *Pose a question to the students. Give them processing time. Then ask them to record their answer on paper, and then pair up and share their answers with each other. Ask students to share their answer or their partner's answer with the remainder of the class.*

Whip Around, Pass. *Pose an issue to the students. For example: "Only boys should be allowed to attend school." Then give the students processing time. Choose one student and give him or her the opportunity to speak on the issue or to say, "I pass." The student next to that student now has the chance to respond. This continues until each willing student has responded.*

“Think About It” Exercise

Have staff complete this exercise to begin implementing what they learned during the workshop. Distribute this document to staff by attaching the file to the Next Day Follow-Up Email, or make copies for the staff.



1. Circle the active engagement strategies in the list below that you have used in your classroom.

Every Pupil Response

Idea Wave

Think-Pair-Share

Whip Around, Pass

Entrance and Exit slips

Side of the Line

Talking Chips

Which of the active engagement strategies do you find most effective? Why do you think this is so? What are other strategies that you think you can use to encourage student learning in the classroom?

2. Do you currently use sustained lecturing in your classes? Will you modify your lecture use after this training? Why or why not? If so, how?

3. Have you observed any “on the bubble” students in your classes? How will you keep these students actively engaged?
