

Classroom Saving Graces

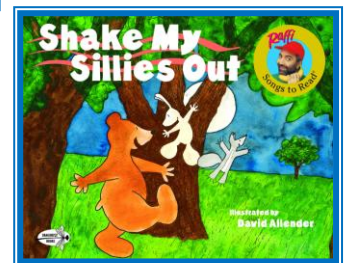


1st - Seating Set-Up: Along with your seating chart, also consider:

- ✓ Buddy-Pairs as a natural part of the set-up, and Double-Buddies as a natural set-up for Cooperative Learning
- ✓ Variety of work area options, available for all students:
 - Regular desk with privacy folder screens as a signal of "Student Working," if needed or wanted
 - Quiet table/desk area(s)
 - "Stand-up" desk - raised desk for students who need the option to standing while working to alleviate restlessness.
 - Different "chair options" around the room where the children can work - regular desk chair, library corner floor cushions, story time armchair and rug area, etc.

2nd - "Chunk & Chew" and Move!

- ✓ The 10-2 Rule: for every 10 minutes of instructions, provide 2 minutes for the students to process or interact with the information.
- ✓ Incorporate embedded movement to the process:
 - Total Class Response - such as:
 - "Thumbs Up / Thumbs Down / Thumbs Sideways"
 - "4-Corners" See the Resource Links at the End!
 - "Parking Lot"
 - Monitor restlessness and students tuning out:
 - "Quick Write"
 - "Think-Pair-Share"
 - "3-2-1"
 - Sometimes you'll just have to *Shake My Sillies Out!*



3rd - Name Sticks with a Twist - Write each student's name on a popsicle stick or tongue depressor, and then:

- ✓ Give the question and think time *before* pulling a name stick.
- ✓ Have *blank* sticks = Call on *anyone*, even a "repeat customer!" [... *continued* ...]

- ✓ At times, addition options could be:
 - Phone a Friend (by student pulling another stick)
 - Ask the Audience (The class gives Thumbs Up/Down after the student who was called on gives his/her potential answer.)

4th - "I'm Done" Checklist and Choices

- ✓ Create a "I'm Done" checklist:



Am I Really Done?

- 1) I put my **name** and **date** on it.
- 2) It is **neat and complete**.
- 3) I double-checked everything, using the connected **checklist** and/or **rubric**.)
- 4) I went above and beyond – showing an **extra s-t-r-e-t-c-h?**
- 5) I can proudly say, "This is my **best effort!**"

- ✓ Create a leveled Choice Chart when students are truly done, and you want to keep them active and engaged with learning while the class is finishing work:
 - **GREEN** choices: Options for all, perhaps could include:
 - Reading in the Library Corner (and they log this in their Reading portfolio - Read to Self, Read with Buddy).
 - Author Cycle choices
 - **YELLOW** choices: These could be earned options, such as:
 - Going to the School Library with a pass
 - Revisiting a previous Center activity (teacher selected options)
 - Puzzles or Math activity games

5th - Class Names Slips - Having a narrow stack of slips that has your class list of students will come in handy in so many ways.

- ✓ Quick check-off for students turning in office notes.
- ✓ Monitoring engagement - hands-up, "pats on back," "repeat & add more."
- ✓ ... Oh, and you can think of so much more! (^_^)



Some Resources

The Titles are hyperlinked if you pulled this up as a Word-Doc - so click and go!

[10-2 Rule](https://leadinglearningmatters.wordpress.com/tag/10-2-rule/) - <https://leadinglearningmatters.wordpress.com/tag/10-2-rule/>

[6 Strategies for Effective Learning](http://www.learningscientists.org/downloadable-materials/) -

<http://www.learningscientists.org/downloadable-materials/>

[Edutopia - How to Keep Kids Engaged in Class](https://www.edutopia.org/classroom-student-participation-tips) -

<https://www.edutopia.org/classroom-student-participation-tips>

[UC Berkley: Active Learning Strategies](https://teaching.berkeley.edu/active-learning-strategies) - <https://teaching.berkeley.edu/active-learning-strategies>

[40 Active Learning Strategies for Active Students](http://teaching.monster.com/benefits/articles/8414-40-active-learning-strategies-for-active-students-) -

<http://teaching.monster.com/benefits/articles/8414-40-active-learning-strategies-for-active-students->

[101 Interactive Techniques](https://www.usf.edu/atle/documents/handout-interactive-techniques.pdf) (It's actually 273 ideas!) -

<https://www.usf.edu/atle/documents/handout-interactive-techniques.pdf>

[Instructional Strategies to Increase Student Engagement](http://www.esc5.k12.in.us/index.php/inside-wvec/documents-and-forms/student-engagement/835-instructionalstrategiestoincreasestudentengagement/file) -

<http://www.esc5.k12.in.us/index.php/inside-wvec/documents-and-forms/student-engagement/835-instructionalstrategiestoincreasestudentengagement/file>

[Active Learning and Teaching Methods](http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/docs/key_stage_3/altm-ks3.pdf) -

http://www.nicurriculum.org.uk/docs/key_stage_3/altm-ks3.pdf

[Top 10 Evidence Based Teaching Strategies](http://www.evidencebasedteaching.org.au/evidence-based-teaching-strategies/) -

<http://www.evidencebasedteaching.org.au/evidence-based-teaching-strategies/>

[14 Classroom Activities That Increase Student Engagement](https://www.readinghorizons.com/blog/14-classroom-activities-that-increase-student-engagement) -

<https://www.readinghorizons.com/blog/14-classroom-activities-that-increase-student-engagement>