

Celebrating Great Teaching - How Teachers Can Use Small Moments to Make a Big Impact

August 11, 2021

Before we begin:

- 1) We're recording and you'll receive a link to the recording tomorrow.
- 2) You'll also receive a certificate of attendance and links to any resources mentioned.
- 3) Use the Q&A box to ask any questions you may have.

Today's Panel



Kristin Valdes

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Colleen Schmit

CDA Facilitator, Teachstone

Quick Check-In

Who is joining us?

- Program Administrator / School Leader
- District Leader
- State Leader
- Coach
- Teacher
- Other



Today's Discussion

- Moment of recognition and celebration of great teaching
- The importance of interactions and the research behind it
- Tips for making the most of small moments this back-to-school season



Let's share!

What are some teaching moments that stand out to you that you are exceptionally proud of from the last year?



Small Moments Make a Big Difference



Meaningful interactions are
at the core of great teaching.

What is at the core of great teaching?



Emotional Support



Classroom
Organization



Instructional Support

Emotional Support



Classroom Organization



Instructional Support



More Tips

For making the most of your interactions



More Tips to Support Your Interactions

1. Plan activities where children have opportunities to classify and compare. For example, ask students the similarities and differences between lions and tigers (PreK)
2. While children are eating lunch, (depending on their age and readiness levels), either put index cards with conversation starters (open-ended questions) on the tables (K-3)
3. Carve out a chunk of your classroom and allow your students to decide how the space should be used. And leave plenty of room on your walls for student work. You can even let your students choose a classroom theme. When students feel like they are valued decision makers in the classroom they take pride in the space and are more conscientious of the room and of the materials they use. It creates an environment that says, “This is our class” versus, “This is my class.” (PreK, K-3, Upper, Secondary)
4. During a nature walk - Problem-solving: You want to carry all those rocks, but they keep falling. It seems like you have too many to fit in your hands. What solution could we come up with? What else might work? (Toddler, PreK, K-3)
5. Rather than using flash cards, incorporate activities like: tracing shapes into shaving cream, playing with different shaped building blocks in the block area, cutting out shapes and using them to form pictures on a mural, reading stories about shapes, playing a shape bingo game, or taking a walk outside and finding shapes in nature (Toddler, PreK)

More Tips to Support Your Interactions

6. Place an infant's favorite toy a few inches away to encourage crawling, then with an excited tone say, "You can do it!" (Infants)
7. Provide students many opportunities to evaluate their own work and thinking. Remind students of the various approaches that could be used to solve a problem and then ask students to plan how they are going to approach the problem. (Upper Elementary, Secondary)
8. During peer conflict, discuss children's behavior with peers and work through conflict with the children instead of solving the problem for the children. (Toddler, Pre-K).
9. During group work, allow students flexibility to move around the classroom, gather supplies and materials needed and rearrange desks. This does not result in chaos but rather gives students more opportunity for autonomy in their learning and environment. (Upper Elementary, Secondary).
10. Provide choice and encourage exploration around the classroom. Watch babies and read their cues for what they are interested in (e.g., "You're looking at the ribbons! Would you like to go over there?"). (Infants)

Questions?

SEPT 13-17, 2021

BACK TO SCHOOL

WITH MEANINGFUL INTERACTIONS

- **Free, virtual series** supporting early childhood teachers returning to the classroom.
- From CLASS® beginners to experts, there will be **content for everyone**. Sessions will address:
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Free Support Resources



Upcoming Webinar:

Investing in Relationships: Using “Banking Time” to Foster More Equitable Relationships with Students

August 18, 2021 at 2 p.m. EDT



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Thank You!



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