# 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** 

Senior Instructional Designer, Teachstone



**Colleen Schmit** 

CDA Facilitator, Teachstone

#### **Quick Check-In**

# Who is joining us?

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



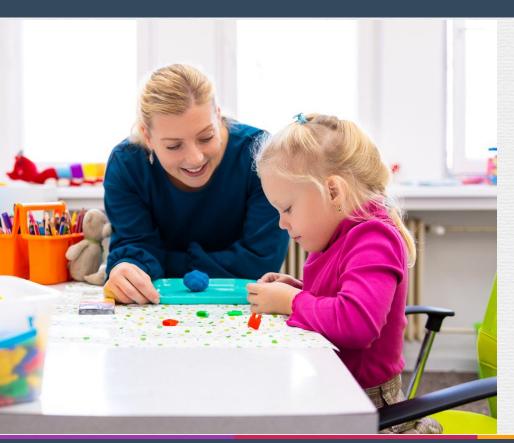


#### Let's share!

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

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## **Free Support Resources**







#### **Upcoming Webinar:**

<u>Investing in Relationships: Using "Banking Time" to Foster More Equitable Relationships with Students</u>

August 18, 2021 at 2 p.m. EDT



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# Thank You!

