Student Engagement Strategies for Core Curriculum School Counseling Lessons



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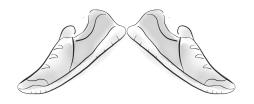
Think -Pair-Share

- 1. Identify point of discussion.
- 2. Allow students time to think individually.
- 3. Have students face partner to share ideas.
- 4. Pair/student contributes to whole group.



"Sole" Mates

- 1. Pose a question to students and allow time to think and/or write down their answers.
- 2. Ask students to get up and find their "sole" mate someone with similar shoes on to discuss their answer.



Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down

- 1. School counselor asks a whole class question.
- 2. Allow students think time.
- 3. Randomly choose a student to respond to question.
- 4. Tell students to agree or disagree with response using thumbs up or thumbs down gesture.

Can also be used as school counselor poses a series of statements to the whole group and students respond thumbs up thumbs down, and school counselor calls on individual students to ask rationale.

Pull Cards

- 1. Give each student a 3x5 index card as they come into the classroom and ask them to write their name on the card.
- 2. You can also ask them to write other information that aligns with the lesson topic (like how often they write in their planner every week before a lesson on organization) or answer questions (such as a pre-test question).
- 3. Collect cards and use to randomly choose students to participate during the lesson.



Choral Reading

- 1. Have a passage or phrase for all students to read together.
- 2. Once ready, give signal for group to read together chorally.

Appropriate for school counselors to use in whole group and/or small group.

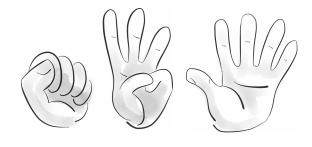


Lines of Communication

- 1. Have students form two lines facing each other.
- 2. Provide students with a talking prompt.
- 3. Decide which side of the line begins the conversation.
- 4. Give about 1-2 minutes for students to communicate.
- 5. Have one end person from one line go to end of the line and have students from same line slide down.
- 6. Give same prompt or different talking point.

Fist to Five

- 1. Ask students to rate, on a scale of fist to five, with a fist meaning they don't know at all and a five meaning they could teach someone else, the answer to the following question, or whether or not they agree with a statement.
- 2. Pose the question to the students.
- 3. Observe the range (or lack of range) within the room and randomly call on students to explain their number.



Give One, Get One

- 1. Using a structured template, have students write a list of facts or ideas learned.
- 2. Have students begin with a partner assigned by you.
- 3. Instruct them to collect one new and different fact or idea from their partner.
- 4. Then they are to give one new and different fact or idea.
- 5. If neither has a new and different idea, tell them to brainstorm and try to create one.
- 6. Have students go from person to person until they generate several ideas on the subject.
- 7. Compile a group list of ideas generated.



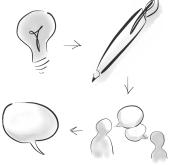
Echo/Repeat Responses

- 1. Students "echo" the word, phrase, etc. school counselor states.
- Appropriate for school counselor to use with whole group, and/or with individual students.
- A useful way of ensuring that students practice the target vocabulary being taught.



Think-Ink-Pair-Share

- 1. Identify point of discussion.
- 2. Allow students time to think individually.
- 3. Allow students time to ink/write ideas down.
- 4. Have students face partner to share ideas.
- 5. Pair/student contributes to whole group.



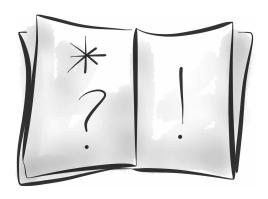
Partner Jigsaw

- 1. Each student receives a portion of the materials to be introduced.
- 2. Students leave their "home" groups and meet in "expert" groups.
- 3. Expert groups discuss the material and brainstorm ways in which to present their understandings to the other members of their "home" group.
- 4. The experts return to their "home" groups to teach their portion of the materials and to learn from other members of their "home" group.
- 5. Students can use a graphic organizer to write down notes as experts talk.



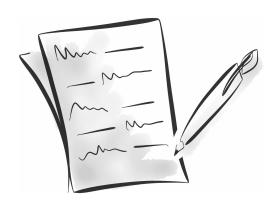
Code Your Reading

- 1. Give each student a reading passage related to the lesson topic.
- 2. Model how students are to code their reading as follows:
 - * an aha
 - ? question or clarification
 - ! validates their learning.
- 3. After set time, call on students to share their findings.



Guided Notes

- 1. Create a set of notes with fill in the blank information about the lesson you are teaching (ex: A-G requirements are _____; A growth mindset is _____).
- 2. Provide guided notes handout to students to fill in as you are presenting the lesson content and allow time to fill in the blanks.



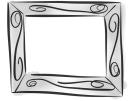
Ticket Out the Door

- 1. At the end of the lesson, give an index card or piece of blank paper to each student.
- 2. Pose a question or sentence starter that relates to lesson objective.
- 3. Have each student write their answer and as they exit they are to turn in their index card or slip of paper containing their answer.
- 4. School counselor can use student responses to gauge student leaning (and even as a brief post-assessment).



Sentence Frames

- 1. Pose a question to students and provide them with a prompt to respond that aligns with the question
- 2. Allow time for students to respond
- The framework allows students time to structure their thoughts
- It is helpful to reframe the answer with "because" or "when."
- Example: What makes you angry?
 I feel angry when ______



Four Corners

- 1. Read a statement to the class related to lesson topic and allow them to think of they strongly agree/agree/disagree/strongly disagree.
- 2. Hang signs in the four corners of the classroom with the four choices and ask students to move to the corner that applies to them.
- 3. When at their corner, give them 1-2 minutes to discuss the reason for their choice with other members of the group and be prepared to share with the entire class.
- 4. Discuss as a group.