



Novice News

November 2018

Praxis Help

Need help studying for a Praxis exam?

The following study sessions are available:

- ✓ **Praxis II Art:** Nov. 8 escWorks ID-354287
- ✓ **Praxis II Social Studies (MS and HS):** Nov. 8, escWorks ID-366990
- ✓ **Praxis II Middle School Science:** Nov. 30, escWorks ID-367662
- ✓ **Praxis PLT:** Dec. 4, escWorks ID: 367660

Engaging Students

The following *Rules of Engagement* are from the article *How to Keep Kids Engaged in Class*:

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

10 Rules of Engagement

1. *Start Class with a Mind Warm-Up*
2. *Use Movement to Get Kids Focused*
3. *Teach Students How to Collaborate Before Expecting Success*
4. *Use Quickwrites When You Want Quiet Time and Student Reflection*
5. *Run a Tight Ship When Giving Instructions*
6. *Use a Fairness Cup to Keep Students Thinking*
7. *Use Signaling to Allow Everyone to Answer Your Question*
8. *Use Minimal-Supervision Tasks to Squeeze Dead Time out of Regular Routines*
9. *Mix up Your Teaching Styles*
10. *Create Teamwork Tactics That Emphasize Accountability*

In the article, each rule is explained and examples are given that are applicable to all grade levels.

CHALLENGE: Choose one engagement strategy to perfect before Christmas!

Instructional Strategies

Definition: The methods a teacher uses to encourage and train students to be independent learners and thinkers.

November's Research-Based Instructional Strategy: **SETTING OBJECTIVES** (TESS 1c)

Objectives are the *what students will do and how they will do it*. They provide a clear picture of what is expected from the student.

Examples:

- Students will analyze a given data set in Excel.
- Students will label the bones shown in an x-ray image.

The format is **action verb + noun** and can include a condition and time scale, such as:

Given four works of short fiction of contrasting genres, students will match each work with its correct genre.

Why are OBJECTIVES so important?

- Objectives focus the purpose of your lesson and subsequent planning
- Objectives give you an outcome or goal
- Objectives are smaller and more digestible than a full standard
- Objectives can help students understand the lesson purpose
- Combined with success criteria, objectives let you know when learning has happened
- Objectives set the foundation for student-led academic discussion

Sources:

<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/blog-posts/meghan-everette/17-18/The-Hidden-Power-of-Learning-Objectives/>
cet.usc.edu/cet/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/writing_learning_objectives.docx

Remember...there are a lot of people that will support you! Call, text or email me any questions or items that are making you feel overwhelmed:
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