

Using High Engagement Instructional Practices

Self-reflection

This tool lists 12 strategies that facilitators can use to promote student engagement and interest. Complete this tool at the beginning, middle, and end of the school year to self-assess long term changes in practice.

The Self-Reflection Scale

1. I have little or no knowledge about this and limited experience in doing this.
2. I have basic knowledge and some experience, but I have to consult with others to do this effectively.
3. I have a good understanding of this and can do it effectively.
4. I can teach others to do this or help them do it.

Practice	Rating
1. Rearrange desks and seats (e.g., I circle, groups, or other collaborative structures) as part of transitioning to the Lions Quest lesson.	
2. Act as a facilitator rather than an instructor (e.g., facilitators speak 30 percent of the time; students speak 70 percent of the time).	
3. Use a variety of open-ended questions to find out what students already know about the social and emotional skills taught.	
4. Wait an appropriate amount of time (7-10 seconds) for students to think about and share authentic responses.	
5. Accept multiple responses and respond respectfully to diverse viewpoints.	
6. Seek student input about everyday dilemmas and challenges they face to increase motivation to learn.	
7. Ask "what do you think?" rather than "why?" questions during discussions to open up divergent thinking.	
8. Include questions and discussions during the direct teaching of skills and concepts.	
9. Use creative grouping strategies to form small groups for discussion and cooperative group work.	
10. Emphasize positive energy, fun, and excitement during group work.	
11. Ask "What" questions about what students did and observed during the classroom activity.	
12. Ask "So what?" questions that focus on what was important about what they experienced.	
13. Ask "Now what?" questions that help students integrate or apply their learning.	
14. Build on the same strategies used throughout the school day to reward student engagement to positively reinforce student participation.	