

THE TEACHER'S TOOLBOX:

A creative guide to lesson planning, classroom ideas, and much more.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Morning Graph.....	page 3
3-2-timing in-1	page 4
Word Wall.....	page 5
Active Listening Chart.....	page 6
Popsicle Stick Fries	page 7
Ice Cream Cone Organization....	page 8
Colorful Popsicle Sticks.....	page 9
Sticker Rewards.....	page 10
Dice in the Classroom.....	page 11
Deck of Cards.....	page 12

Attendance Strategy

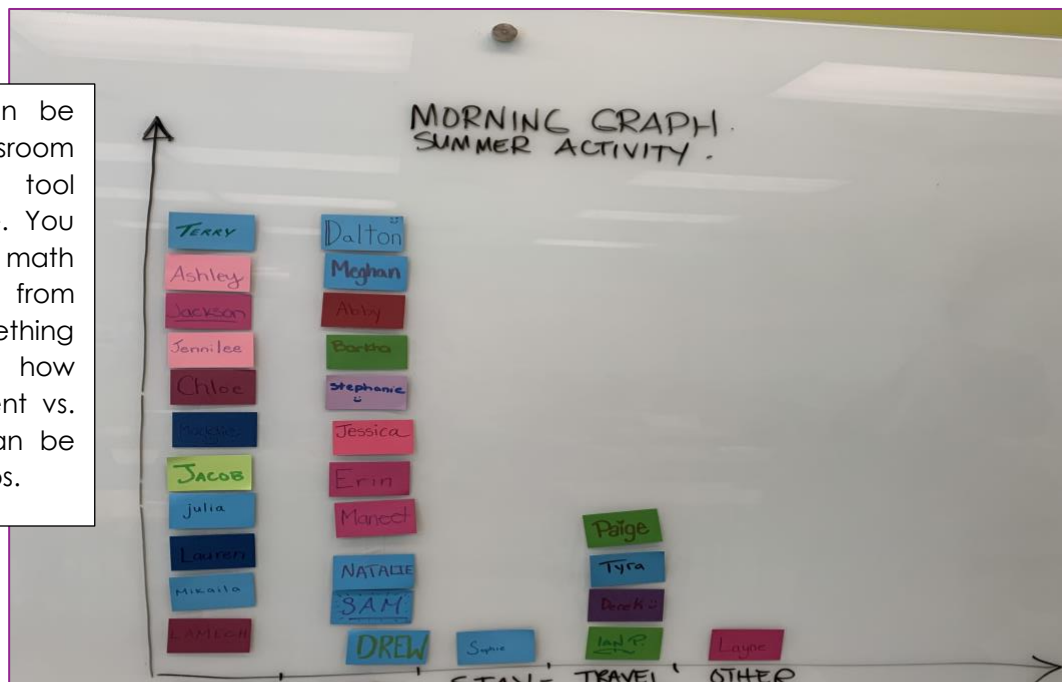
MORNING GRAPH

*"Your life requires your
mindful presence in
order to live it. Be here
now." — Akiroq Brost*

This is an interactive way to take attendance. This method asks each student to create a name tag for themselves. A magnet will be placed, and the name tags will be used for the rest of the year. Every morning the students will locate their nametag (located on the side of the graph) and place their name along the y-axis, wherever suits them best. Each morning the graph will change, and a new prompt will be asked. This can be used to check in on students, while also taking attendance, as the names not on the graph will be assumed absent.

EXAMPLE:

The morning graph can be incorporated in the classroom as an active learning tool beyond just attendance. You can implement this into math lessons- everything from creating fractions, to something as simple as counting how many students are absent vs. present. This strategy can be adapted to all age groups.



CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT:



3- 2 - TIMING IN - 1

An effective way to create authority for yourself as the teacher is necessary for proper classroom management. A teacher must create an environment where the students respect them. This can be a struggle for some teachers as students often test new teachers. For this method, the teacher must select a “risk” if the students do not listen to instruction. Selecting a fair “risk” for each age group is crucial, and for most age groups recess is a useful risk.

HOW IT WORKS:

Using clapping 3 times as an example, a teacher must let the students know at the beginning of the year that this signifies the classroom should be silent and listen. The 3 claps will follow the teacher counting down from 3-2-1. The exception is the students have these 3 seconds to be silent and listen or else the teacher will begin counting, therefor 3-2-timing in-1. This means that for every second the children do not respect the teacher time, they will lose that many minutes of recess. (ie. 3 seconds after the countdown = 3 minutes of recess lost)

WORD WALL

WHY A WORD WALL?

A word wall can be selective to each lesson plan. The wall can range from letters in the alphabet to subject based walls such as math, science and more.

Example:



ACTIVE LISTENING CHART



What does it mean to be an active listener?

Active listening promotes good classroom behavior. It is how students and teachers can show simple respect for each other and their ideas.

POPSICLE STICK FRIES



The popsicle stick method is a great option for random group organization. Have each student write their name on a popsicle stick, then place in a fry container. Each container has a maximum number of sticks allowed. Each container will signify a group, with the popsicle sticks representing the students.



MATERIALS:

- SHARPIES
- POPSICLE STICKS
- CARDBOARD

ICE CREAM CONE ORGANIZATION



WHY THIS STRATEGY?

Each student will write their name on an "ice cream scoop". The cones will provide a base and can be used for many things like random grouping strategies, levels of learning, or color-coded grouping. This strategy is colorful, fun, and visual to have in your classroom.

COLORFUL POPSICLE STICKS

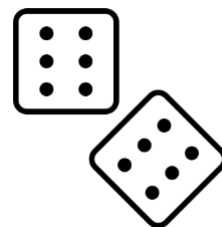
Popsicle sticks can be a great tool in your classroom. They are very cheap and go a long way. Popsicle sticks can be used as a grouping strategy, by utilizing the colors on the popsicle sticks. They can also be used as a tool for counting in younger grades, or more difficult math equations for older grades.

STICKER REWARDS

Having a sticker rewards system in your classroom is a positive way to reinforce good behavior when it comes to small tasks.

EXAMPLES:

- Using stickers as a daily agenda check
- Nightly reading check list
- Positive behavior charts
- Working towards a goal



DICE IN THE CLASSROOM.

Having a set of dice in your classroom can be a very useful tool. Dice can be used for lessons in multiple subjects, in diverse ways.

As an example, MATH

Using dice in math can be accessible to all grades. For younger grades students could roll the dice and calculate the sum. For older students, students could roll the dice and multiply to get the sum.