

WEEK 12

Dear NEA Members,

Greetings! There are many new ideas out there to help teachers. NEA has created a web-site called "Works-4-Me" which are tried and true teaching hints suggested by NEA members. Each week you will receive an e-mail with six helpful (and short) hints to help you in your teaching. They will fall under the following categories:

Teaching Techniques
Content
Getting Organized
Managing Your Classroom
Relationships
Using Technology

In addition, you will get information about your NEA Member Benefits that are available to you through your membership in the Association. Click on the link or visit www.neamb.com.

Teaching Techniques

Time Capsule

"I begin the school year by doing time capsules with my students. They include their height, a handwriting sample, a math timed-test (multiplication facts) some predictions (both individual and class) as well as resolutions. I use oatmeal boxes or Pringles canisters for the capsules. We wrap them in wrapping paper, to seal them, then put them all into a large, taped box, kept in plain sight. We open it on the last day of school. It has been great fun."

Content

Self Portraits

"When students do a self portrait they should be able to look in a mirror, so I asked my students and colleagues for old mirror tiles. I had 1/8 inch maysonite cut into 12"x12" backing boards which I attached to the mirror tiles by taping down all the edges with three layers of one inch masking tape. Our shop class made stands for me by putting an angled slot in blocks of wood. Now each student has their own mirror to use during class. This

is a great way to do a self portrait because the students can really study their facial features and expressions."

Getting Organized

Original in Yellow

"Sick of having a file of extra copies of the same worksheet and never know which sheet is the original? I write 'original' on the original in yellow highlighter before it ends up in my files. The copy machine doesn't see the yellow marker but I can! It's a super way to save my originals and space in my files!"

Managing Your Classroom

Behavior Bank

"I use a behavior system that also teaches money. At the beginning of the year I have all students punch out their money from the back of their math book to go in our 'bank.' Every morning two 'bankers' pass out five pennies to each student. If a student breaks a rule, I don't need to lecture. I just collect a penny or two. The children get the message very quickly. At the end of the day, the children trade in their pennies for nickels, dimes, or quarters. Once a week, they come to my 'store' to purchase stickers, bookmarks, posters, etc. They may not use pennies to shop so they must learn money skills. The kids love it and my class knows the value of a quarter. Parents donate some of the items for the store."

Relationships

Capturing School Experiences

"I have my kids bring in a disposable camera with their school supplies. I snap special moments that happen during the school year (things that parents miss). When it's filled, I send it home. Parents can have it developed and send in another if they wish. It's a great way to capture school experiences."

Using Technology

Computer Monitoring

"I found the screen saver feature is a great way to monitor students working on the computer. I added a picture of myself with a word balloon to the screen saver. (Virtual Mr. Edwards, version 1.0) They're surprised when the screen saver pops up and alerts them they were perhaps doing more talking than typing. Back to work, kids!"

TWO NEA Member Benefit of the Week:

The money you spend on gas between school, home, errands, and visiting family can add up to a lot – especially right before the holidays. We understand how important it is for you to save money right now, so we'd like to offer you the chance to win one of ten \$200 Shell gift cards. [Click here](#) for rules and to enter at **neamb.com**. No purchase necessary. **Winners will be notified by express mail on or before November 13, 2009.**

Be sure to [register](#) at **neamb.com** for more great giveaways like this one!

Source: www.neamb.com

To make sure you receive all the benefits you are entitled to as an NEA member, please add NEA_Member_Benefits@NEAMemberBenefits.com to your address book. Thank you.

[Register](#) | [Win Prizes](#)

American College of Education is offering **NEA educators** online master's degrees for \$4,950 through November 30th! **Save \$2,000 now, as tuition will be increased to \$6,950.**

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