

## WEEK 29

Dear NEA Members,

Greetings! There are many new ideas out there to help [members](#). 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 [professional life](#). 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](http://www.neamb.com).

**Teaching Techniques**

### **Sticky Note Taking**

"I find that using square sticky notes for note taking is a wonderful way to keep my students focused. They use them to keep notes on specific sections of our social studies text and as a place to write short chapter summaries in the novels we are reading. The notes stay with the section read or attached to the last page of the chapter. The sticky notes are especially useful when reviewing for tests or preparing book reports."

**Content**

### **Popcorn Reading**

"When I have students read a passage, they only read as much as they can handle and then say 'popcorn' and the name of another student who reads next. Most end up reading longer passages than they would be assigned by me and all have to stay on their toes. If students are not on track they must read until the teacher tells them to stop. As you would expect, students stop in the middle of sentences, paragraphs, etc. I culminate this activity with a popcorn treat if all students have been on track."

## **Getting Organized**

### **Leap-Frog Repeating**

"Here's a way to increase students' listening skills. When I find a student who has a correct answer, I have them say it aloud, and then I have a student sitting close repeat the answer. If that student says it correctly, I then ask another student to repeat it. If any student has trouble saying it correctly, the previous student in the thread says it again. In this leap-frog repeating method, everyone has a chance to know the answer."

## **Managing Your Classroom**

### **Forming Groups**

"At the beginning of the school year, my students write their names on index cards. I use these to draw from when forming groups. I always shuffle the cards for randomness but I let the students know that I have the final say if I feel that a group is incompatible. Sometimes I pick the first three cards, pick every other card, or pick one card and let that student choose the other members of the group."

## **Relationships**

### **Blooming Students**

"I am a mentor teacher who works with a number of new teachers every year. On the first day of school, I bring a small vase of flowers for each new teacher and say, I know your students will bloom this year."

## **Using Technology**

### **Teaching Diversity**

"There are wonderful resources for teaching about diversity and anti-bias work on the Web. The following three are particularly worthwhile. Starting early with teaching respect and anti-bias behaviors is so important but sometimes a bit scary. These sites will provide you with some tried and tested resources. There is a lot to explore at each location.

[http://www.adl.org/tools%5Fteachers/tools\\_tips.html](http://www.adl.org/tools%5Fteachers/tools_tips.html) - This is a page of the ADL (Anti-Defamation League) directed specifically at educators with practical tips and even an easily printable page "Creating a Positive

Environment in which to Raise Diversity Issues" and another whole section for Parents and Kids. There is also much information about teaching about religion in public schools.

<http://www.splcenter.org/teachingtolerance/tt-index.html> - Free materials are available from "Teaching Tolerance" for teaching about multicultural issues. They are described on this web page. This is a program of the Southern Poverty Law Center, also a non-profit organization dedicated to the reduction/elimination of hate groups and hate related behavior and violence.

### NEA Member Benefit of the Week:

To make sure you receive all the benefits you are entitled to as an NEA member, please add [NEA\\_Member\\_Benefits@NEAMemberBenefits.com](mailto:NEA_Member_Benefits@NEAMemberBenefits.com) to your address book. Thank you.

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

NEA Member Benefits offers a comprehensive dental and vision insurance program to NEA Members and their family members.

#### **Don't let unexpected dental bills spoil that beautiful smile.**

With NEA dental benefits your smile is protected.

- Choose multiple plans to meet your needs and budget.
- Control your dental expenses with annual maximum (per covered individual) options of \$1,000, \$1,500, or \$2,000 – the choice is yours.
- Select your own dentist.
- Receive immediate coverage for routine exams, cleanings, and x-rays.
- Receive coverage for major restorative procedures (crowns, bridges, dentures) including dental implants.

Add optional vision insurance to cover your eyewear needs:

- Substantial coverage for exams, lenses, frames, and contact lenses.
- Network of Providers including LensCrafters, Pearle Vision, Target Optical, Sears Optical, and thousands of independent vision care providers.
- Additional discounts available for add-on services such as lens tinting, UV coating, Anti-Reflective, AND laser vision correction.

For more information, a free online quote, or to enroll, [click here](#) or call our NEA Dental and Vision hotline at 1-866-984-7730 Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. eastern time.

Sincerely,

Sue Fox  
Insurance Program Manager

---

**900 Clopper Road, Gaithersburg, MD 20878**  
Questions? [ask-us@neamb.com](mailto:ask-us@neamb.com)

Some plans may not be available in all states.

The above is a very brief summary of some of the features of the NEA Dental and Vision Insurance Plans. A full description of the available plans, rates, and any limitations or exclusions will be made available by visiting the website or by requesting a complete product brochure. The insurance company underwriting the plan will also be provided within this summary of benefits.

Note: If you registered at neamb.com before April 2009, you must register on the new site because your registration could not be carried over to the new site. Please be sure to register on the new site at neamb.com – we don't want you to miss out on all the benefits!

Members tell us that email is the best way to keep informed about member benefits, special offers, and monthly giveaways. Your email address is strictly confidential and will never be provided to persons or entities outside the Association (see our [Privacy Policy](#)).

This email was sent to update you about the NEA Member Benefits Program. Periodically, we may send such email which also include special offers and giveaways on the NEA MB Web Site. If you would prefer not to receive future updates, you may unsubscribe at any time by clicking on the link below.

To unsubscribe, [click here](#) or if the link is not clickable, simply copy the text: [http://nea\\_client.mansellgroup.net/UM/U.asp?B2883.40061.9554.1673307](http://nea_client.mansellgroup.net/UM/U.asp?B2883.40061.9554.1673307) and paste it into your browser. You will be taken off the list. Please allow ten days for processing. Thank you. DV:EA0310