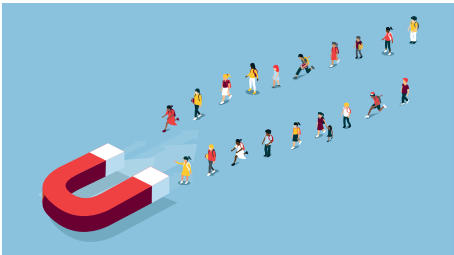




THE GOVERNOR JOHN ENGLER  
CENTER FOR  
CHARTER  
SCHOOLS  
CENTRAL MICHIGAN  
UNIVERSITY

# STUDENT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES



## Definition

Active, intellectual participation and interest in the learning by students (e.g., asking questions, conversing with peers about the topic, solving problems, applying information, making connections, hands-on learning vs. compliance or “busy-work” or worksheets).

## Strategies to Engage Students

**Relationships** — Continuously build in activities to strengthen relationships between yourself and the students and among students. Try techniques such as: Good News, Greeting at the door, Get-to-Know You Activities, Celebrations, Show-n-Tell, Family Circle, and Class Motto/Slogan.

**Classroom Management** — Determine effective routines and procedures and hold students accountable for following expectations. Try techniques such as: Attention signals, Waiting for 100% attention before starting, Circulate/Use Proximity, Verbal Redirections, Setting expectations with SLANT and CHAMPS, and Organizing furniture to allow for discussion/collaboration.

**Discussion** — Provide frequent and various opportunities for students to talk about their learning. Try techniques such as: Think-Pair-Share, Write-Pair-Share, Give One/Get One, Stand Up/Hand Up/Pair Up, Whip Around, 4 Corners, Table Talk, Shoulder Partners, or Partner A/B.

**Movement** — Movement throughout the day helps students to re-energize their bodies and their brains, helping them to focus and concentrate better. Try techniques such as: Music/Dance, Brain Breaks, Walk-n-Talk, Vote with Feet, Gallery Walk, or Scavenger Hunt.

**Joy in Learning/Games** — While playing games, students develop a variety of connections with the content and can form positive memories of learning. Try techniques such as: Relay Races, Snowball Fight, Jeopardy, 20,000 Pyramid, Pictionary, BINGO or Charades.

## Resources

- » [Edutopia.org](http://Edutopia.org)
- » [Teachertube.com](http://Teachertube.com)
- » [Teachingchannel.com](http://Teachingchannel.com)
- » *Total Participation Techniques* by Pérsida Himmele and William Himmele
- » *Teach Like a Champion* by Doug Lemov