

How To Engage Your Students In The First Week Of Class

The start of the school year is a perfect opportunity to dedicate a small amount of time to invite your students to interact, share and trust one another.

The sooner your students can feel comfortable with one another, and with you, the sooner they will be prepared to engage in their learning. And we all know that engaging students is the hardest (yet most critical) part of creating a productive learning environment.

The more time you take to create a safe learning environment at the start of your school year, the less anti-social behaviours you will need to manage throughout the rest of the year. Research shows that students not only become more productive, but incidents of bullying drop significantly.

There are countless activity ideas you can integrate into your early lesson plans that will invite your students to 'break the ice,' get to know one another and build some essential team skills.

Try These Activity Ideas

Here's a sample sixty-minute program featuring a bunch of hand-picked, fantastic group activities. Try the whole program or pick and choose what you like or have time for.

The links will direct you to [playmeo](https://playmeo.com) – the leading online group games & activity database. No equipment is necessary, and all of the step-by-step instructions are just a mouse click away.

Open a [Free account](#) or ask your school to subscribe you to a [monthly](#) or [annual](#) plan to access hundreds more fun group-building activities.

- **[Categories](#)**
Simple random grouping which fosters lots of interaction.
- **[Thumb Wrestling in Stereo](#)**
Innovative variation of the classic thumb-wars.
- **[Jump In Jump Out](#)**
One of the most hilarious group games out there.
- **[Fill The Gap](#)**
Useful and active name-reminder game.
- **[Paired Shares](#)**
Opportunity to share in pairs or small groups.
- **[Tea Cup Stretch](#)**
Unique on person stretch.
- **[Everybody's It](#)**
Classic all-time favourite run-around game.
- **[Leaning Tower of Feetza](#)**
Quick and easy group initiative.
- **[Pairs Compass Walk](#)**
Exciting challenge for two people.

