ENGAGING STUDENTS
OLC Volunteer Training Series
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Think of a person who made a positive impact on your life when you were young. What was this person like?
To increase student learning, volunteers will walk away with:

1) Foundational tools for building a positive relationships with their students and managing student behavior.

2) Games and strategies for maximizing student engagement.
BUILDING A STRONG RELATIONSHIP

• Empathize
  – Understand where student is coming from

• Make Connections
  – You and the student (getting to know you activity)
  – The student and the text

• Keep it positive
EXPECTATIONS:
WHAT BEHAVIORS DO WE WANT?

How does an “ideal” student behave? What does s/he do? Say?
Student Expectations

- Sit up straight.
- Respect: Eyes & ears on your tutor & your book.
- Participate: Ask Questions.
- Have Fun.
- Enjoy your book.
- Read with PRIDE.
- Two feet on the floor back against the chair.
# Vague Versus Explicit Directions

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<th>Vague</th>
<th>Explicit</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>Go choose a book for me to read to you.</em></td>
<td>Walk to the library, look through two boxes of books and choose the best red sticker one you can find. You have one minute to choose a book and come straight back here.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>I need you to pay attention.</em></td>
<td>Please give me your attention which means your eyes are on me, there is nothing in your hands but your pencil and your lips are zipped.</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Now it’s your turn to read.</em></td>
<td>Whey I say “go” open your book to the first page and begin to read aloud to me.</td>
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Clear Explicit Instructions, Given as a Statement

1) Pay attention.
2) Read the page again.
1) Stop skipping words.
2) Write a sentence with the word “grinned.”
Praise positive behavior by describing it & reinforcing how it helps the student read.

Ex. “Sally, you figured out that word by chunking it and reading each sound! That’s awesome because practicing chunking helps you become an even better reader!”

Let’s Practice:

1) The student refers back to the book to answer a question.
2) The student writes a high-quality sentence.

1) The student takes the time to look at the pictures.
2) The student stops to make a prediction.
CHALLENGING MOMENT
BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT 101

• In order to make the most out of every tutoring moment:
  – Own your role as the adult.
  – Give clear, explicit directions in the form of a statement.
  – Positively reinforce behaviors that you want to see more frequently.
  – Do not bargain under any circumstances.
  – Do what you say you will do.
TIPS FOR STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

• The average attention span is 3-5 minutes per year of a child’s age.
  
  5 year old: 15-25 minutes
  6 year old: 18 -30 minutes
  7 year old: 21 - 35 minutes
  8 year old: 24 - 40 minutes
  9 year old: 27 - 45 minutes
  10 year old: 30 - 50 minutes
  11 year old: 33 - 55 minutes

• How can we keep students engaged and learning for the full time?
• Slide game
• Keeping track with stars