

## **Rebels With Applause: Brain Compatible Approaches For Motivating Reluctant Learners**

This evaluation is from a full-day workshop at the Arch Ford Education Cooperative in Plumerville, Arkansas on July 23, 2003. There were K-12 teachers of varying levels of experience.

	1	2	3	4	Mean Average Score
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	--	29	4.00
The handouts were valuable	--	--	3	26	3.90
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	--	29	4.00
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	--	29	4.00

Comments (all of them):

- ◆ Outstanding workshop!
- ◆ Excellent workshop with very practical applications – a refreshing change!
- ◆ Excellent workshop! I left with many strategies I am excited about implementing in the classroom.
- ◆ Enjoyed myself. I feel like this is the first workshop I have taken in which I learned strategies I can and will use. Thanks!
- ◆ Great workshop. A lot of helpful info AND worksheets to go with it. Very enjoyable.
- ◆ This was my fourth brain-compatible workshop! This was the best in that we actually DID the strategies. I learn by doing.
- ◆ Great job! Very enlightening ☺
- ◆ What a breath of fresh air! Every teacher, especially new teachers, can benefit from the material presented. I look forward to the book!
- ◆ Your own presentation is validation for everything in the handout – you are a dynamic speaker – Good luck with your book.
- ◆ This reinforced what I am doing in my classroom! Other teachers have commented negatively to me about using these items.
- ◆ As a new teacher, this workshop was wonderful. I feel like I have concrete, doable strategies that I can use to create a stimulating environment.
- ◆ Workshop was great! I wish more of our teachers could have been here.
- ◆ The modeling of strategies was excellent. I feel that I have a much better understanding of what I can do to change.
- ◆ I always have a sense of dread when entering a workshop because most of them are boring and a waste of time. I would be willing to recommend this workshop to other teachers. It was full of useful information and it was fun!

- ◆ Your enthusiasm made the day a great day. Learning was fun because of it! The “Stuff You Can Use” sheet was excellent! I am going to mention you to my administration.
- ◆ I really mean what I circled (fours).
- ◆ Excellent!
- ◆ Very good! Fun! Good teacher!
- ◆ Outstanding workshop. Great information that I can use in my classes.
- ◆ “Stuff you can use” – excellent tool!!! He stayed true to his techniques through the whole day!
- ◆ Very interesting information, lots of useful ideas to take back. Thanks!
- ◆ Wonderful to have active learning and get things that can be used in all grades. I questioned whether that could be done because so much emphasis is on math and language.
- ◆ One of the best workshops for great ideas. Presenter conveyed sense of energy and enthusiasm.
- ◆ Mr. Smith was very energetic and positive. I have been to many workshops but this one will be remembered and “doable”! Thanks
- ◆ Several good ideas, thanks! Good luck with your book.
- ◆ This was a very applicable workshop. You were well prepared and interesting – you encouraged me to continue using innovative techniques. Thanks-
- ◆ It put responsibility for my classroom success on me and challenged me to kindly be more interesting, listen more and give my best as the role model I’m supposed to be- Thank you for the quality and succinctness!

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This evaluation is from a full day workshop that took place on October 29, 2002 in Orange California for Grade 6-12 new teachers and their Support Providers.

	1	2	3	4	Average
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	5	27	3.84
The handouts were valuable	--	--	8	24	3.75
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	4	28	3.86
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	4	28	3.86

Comments (all of them):

- The best workshop I've ever attended! Thanks, Rick.
- I'd be thrilled to have Rick work with our whole staff—really “good stuff,” compared to most of the staff development dumped on us this year. This really was one of the most helpful in-services I've attended. Because of so many responsibilities and demands this week, I almost didn't come. I am SO glad I did.
- I got a ton of good ideas that I can't wait to try. I was so validated by seeing in writing that I was already doing intense strategies so I know I am doing a good job.
- One of the best workshops I have ever attended in terms of finding things that can be used in class.
- Rick, you were very fun! The workshop was very humorous, yet helpful.
- Great workshop! Students will benefit greatly from the strategies presented on motivating those reluctant learners!
- This workshop was full of great ideas that were applicable to all subject areas and secondary classes. Even with my years of experience, I have many ideas to take back with me to try at school and share with my colleagues.
- Rick's personable style, modeling, and humor made this a wonderful day.
- Wonderful modeling of teaching techniques.
- I love teacher sharing time/back page to write ideas down.
- Well organized and beneficial.
- Stuff you can use. Yes! Thank you!
- The workshop gave me some strategies that I could apply in my classroom. It also built on some already existing ideas that I am using now.
- Great thought-provoking class! I learned so much today and I will use a lot of what I learned. Thank you very much!
- Rick did a wonderful job and I learned a lot.
- Good, fast-paced, humorous. Many ideas can be implemented in my classroom.
- I gained information and revisited many strategies. It is a good break—to remember what I know.
- Stuff you can use—Yeah!!

This evaluation is from a full day workshop called **“Rebels With Applause: Brain Compatible Approaches For Motivating Reluctant Learners”** on September 5, 2002 for **High School teachers** of various levels of experience in Carlsbad, CA.

	1	2	3	4	Mean Average Score
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	1	20	3.95
The handouts were valuable	--	--	4	17	3.76
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	0	21	4.00
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	0	21	4.00

Comments (all of them):

- ♦ I came in grudgingly – last day before classes begin – room a mess, etc. After 20 minutes I was completely engaged. Thank you
- ♦ One of the better, if not the best of the many in-services I’ve attended. Many have been interminable; this one was like “Disneyland” in comparison.
- ♦ Rick, thank you so much for your insight, experience, thoughts, humor. This is exactly what I needed – I know my teaching will improve as a result of today. I also know my students’ experiences will be enhanced as well. Thank you, thank you, thank you!
- ♦ Excellent presentation. Great information, well presented – logical
- ♦ Thank you very much!
- ♦ Very helpful! Thank you.
- ♦ I really enjoyed this workshop! I have a lot of fresh new ideas I hope to incorporate into my classes this year. Thank you for sharing with us.
- ♦ Great personality
- ♦ Rick modeled many different techniques that will work with so many of the students I have.
- ♦ Most presenters do not discuss implementation. I appreciate Rick discussing how to do this in detail.
- ♦ Opened up a whole new range of teaching approaches. I learned that I have been doing a number of things that may have hindered my students, when I thought I was helping them. Thank you.
- ♦ Innovative thinking and excellent delivery. Would like to see more of same! Thank you!
- ♦ Excellent fast paced day of learning new ideas! Thanks for the Frisbee!
- ♦ This is really the most useful in-service presentation that I have participated in. I hope to implement some of these ideas in my classes soon. Thank you.
- ♦ Thanks for your inspirational ideas. I’m excited to try quite a few!
- ♦ Good stuff – Rick took a tired group and pulled us into it. Much useful.
- ♦ It was a refreshing workshop. I am leaving with new ideas as well as being reminded about some old techniques that I used my first few years. FUN! Playful!
- ♦ I really believe we benefit when we learn new strategies and techniques. A number of “older” teachers I’ve worked with in the past tended to “deny” the workshops validity, going on the modest notion that they can’t learn anymore because they already know everything. This workshop drives their “theory” into the ground!
- ♦ This old dog learned some new tricks (techniques) to vary my in-class activities. Thank you.

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This evaluation is from a full day workshop called **“Rebels With Applause: Brain Compatible Approaches For Motivating Reluctant Learners”** by that took place on Saturday February 2, 2002 for **K-12 teachers** in San Lorenzo, CA. Teachers were from three districts and had **varying levels of experience**.

	1	2	3	4	Mean Average Score
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	1	19	3.95
The handouts were valuable	--	--	2	18	3.90
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	0	20	4.00
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	0	20	4.00

Comments (all of them):

- This was one of the most meaningful and useful workshops I’ve been to in recent years. I plan to share your strategies with teachers having difficulties with their kids. Please let me know when your next behavior management workshop is being held.
- Pacing was excellent. Ideas were concrete and safe. Rick was like a very calm circus announcer.
- I have been to one of your workshops before and I have been motivated to try new techniques both times. Thank you!
- Reviewing throughout the day was so valuable. I feel like these ideas are really mine now!
- Thanks, it validated things that I had been doing and stopped because of the pressure to “meet standards,” as well as giving me great USABLE ideas to use in the class on Monday. Thanks!
- Great strategies to get students motivated. A useful workshop that keeps you moving, reflecting and actively learning!
- Thank you very much. I really enjoyed the workshop. So much to think about and all of it positive. My reluctant learners will hopefully enjoy the rest of the year more.
- Many workshops lecture instead of model the good practices of teaching that we are trying to learn. Your pacing was great! Thank you ☺
- I like the ideas you presented. Thank you
- Thanks!!
- Thanks for the rat research. It was beneficial to have the background knowledge of the brain. ☺
- Research or no, I found it very difficult to share with others while music was playing. I liked the music at other times though! Thank you!
- Thank you for the handouts. I will review them because a lot of info was presented. I will need time to absorb the info, then implement ideas that I feel will help my classes. Thank you.
- I learned many strategies. Much of what I do was validated.
- I am interested in participating in your behavior management workshop. Would love for you to present to my school staff. Wonderful experience!
- Very good workshop! I liked your humor & great choice of music. Thank you!

**“Rebels With Applause: Brain Compatible Approaches For Motivating Reluctant Learners”** full-day workshop evaluation, Friday May 3, 2002 for **K-8 teachers** in Ontario, CA. Two-thirds were Beginning Teachers and one-third were Support Providers (Mentor Teachers).

	1	2	3	4	Mean Average Score
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	--	21	4.00
The handouts were valuable	--	--	2	19	3.90
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	0	21	4.00
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	0	21	4.00

Comments (all of them):

- The strategies/resources were phenomenal!! Both the interactive activities and energy kept us focused. Definitely NOT boring! I would attend any workshop Rick Smith would present!
- He was very energetic, motivating and presented strategies that are very easy to implement. One of the best seminars this year. Thanks ☺
- The ideas were great and very practical to be implemented and the presenter was extremely aware of what we go through.
- This workshop has opened my eyes to some strategies that will give me a chance to become a better teacher. All time favorite - “relax” – an important concept.
- I learned many strategies today that I can implement in my lesson plans – strategies to increase student comprehension and long-term memory. This is one of the top workshops that I have attended and its information will not sit on the shelf collecting dust.
- He was awesome – perfect for middle school – my biggest complaint about the BTSA workshops is that they often focus on elementary. This was great – I got so many great ideas. Real stuff I can take to my classroom. ☺ I’m so glad my mentor told me about this.
- Thanks for all the great “stuff I can use”! I really did get more than a couple – just like you promised! ☺ P.S. I am going to perfect my juggling over the weekend so I can share with my students what I learned!
- What a wonderfully informative session this was! I wish I could’ve heard this earlier in my teaching. Thank you.
- I appreciated the extensive modeling you did of procedures for us. Being a visual learner, I love seeing that strategies in action, even if we are adults. ☺ Thank you for your time and dedication to the teachers!
- Down to Earth and very reasonable approaches.

- The workshop was good because the strategies are based on research findings. To me that counts. It was also easy to see how they would work in the classroom.
- The learning piece we gained today has added to the integrity of teaching.
- Great workshop! Thanks for the humor. Very helpful, especially all the strategies.
- Truly outstanding content & presentation!
- Thank you for a great workshop with inspiring and useful strategies to use with my Beginning Teachers for motivating and teaching the students that fall behind.
- There are so many things to cover, a day just doesn't do it. I think there is much in the workshop that can be put to use quickly. Some takes some digesting to
- think of how to put to the best use, but they are equally valuable to the "quick" ideas. Thanks so much.
- I really enjoyed the day. You kept us actively engaged while providing us with a lot of valuable info. I feel like I've got lots of great new ideas to pass on to my beginning teachers!
- This workshop was energizing to me. I have some new ideas to put into action in classrooms.
- Great materials. Thanks!
- Great pacing/chunking of information – high energy – Practical strategies to use on Monday!

# Rebels With Applause: Brain Compatible Approaches For Motivating Reluctant Learners

This evaluation is from a full day workshop that took place on Friday March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002 for grade **6-12 teachers** in Bakersfield, CA. Teachers were from four districts and were primarily in their **first three years of teaching**.

	1	2	3	4	Mean Average Score
The workshop provided me with helpful ideas and strategies	--	--	--	32	4.00
The handouts were valuable	--	--	5	27	3.84
The workshop used a variety of interactive approaches	--	--	--	32	4.00
I would recommend this workshop to other teachers	--	--	--	32	4.00

Comments (all of them):

- Really one of the best and most positive workshops I've attended. Lots of valuable resources I was looking for to incorporate into my class.
- I have never met so many wonderful people and gotten so many great ideas in one place! Thanks so much this was a fabulous experience!
- Thank you, you were excellent!
- Great ideas and strategies to infuse my classroom with greater life and motivate and engage my students. I also appreciated the opportunity to reflect on my teaching decisions (Big picture) and your practical emphasis on teaching procedure and how you modeled it!
- Super workshop. I enjoy the wonderful useful ideas.
- It was great
- It was great! I enjoyed learning about the brain and how it works. I could have heard more about that. I will use note taking/note making. I knew that I needed to give my students a pause every 10 minutes, but didn't really know what to do in those pauses. You provided me workable, relevant ideas. Thanks!
- Lots of fun
- Thanks for the great info!
- You have so much energy that it makes the workshop enjoyable. Great interactive techniques.
- Thanks so much for the great ideas!



- Quite interesting & interactive. I learned a lot of useful techniques – he modeled great behaviors and techniques ☺
- This workshop was very helpful. Listening to these great ideas made me remember an idea I got from Rick’s workshop one year ago (“No!”)
- Love the Frisbee!
- Thanks Rick
- I loved how energetic you were, you made it fun as well as very informative! To see other educators who truly care is wonderful.
- Always great!
- I did learn some new things that will help me in the classroom.
- This was a lot of fun! I feel like I got a lot of good easy ideas that I can implement in my daily or weekly routines.
- This was great! I enjoyed it.
- I always enjoy your workshops, and look forward to trying these new strategies in my classroom.
- This workshop was informative, but most of all it was fun and interactive! Thank you!
- This was great!
- Excellent workshop. There were many helpful strategies.
- Your final comment about implementation was very valuable. I’ll look forward to seeing you again.
- This was the first workshop (16 years of other industry workshops) that really addressed implementation. As a first year teacher, I would have benefited from Rick Smith’s workshops on a monthly basis. The focus seems hard to maintain.
- Great day!
- This was incredibly helpful and it could not have been timed more appropriately. I have attended many workshops and I feel that this was the most valuable.
- Although I have used some of these strategies before, I learned some new “slants” and some great new perspectives to take back to my classroom. Thought the brain research was interesting. Loved the “high-five” and repeat this...”
- This was an awesome workshop. I loved the positive energy & motivation it created in me!!