
HAND RAISING

Teach students to raise their hands to speak, instead of shouting out, when answering or asking a question. Below, find two sample lesson plans for teaching hand raising.

SAMPLE LESSON PLAN #1: Hand Raising

Teacher: Albert E

Class: High School Chemistry

Rule: Raising Your Hand

Goal: At the end of this lesson students will KNOW and BE ABLE TO use the procedure for raising their hands to speak in class. And students will THINK about how not raising their hands affects the flow of the class.

Intro/Model:

A volunteer student will come up and pretend to be the teacher. They will read the instructions for an activity we are doing later that day and ask a set of pre-made questions about it. The teacher will pretend to be a student and model poor behavior by doing the following:

- 1) Raising hand but just calling out before teacher calls on them
- 2) Calling out as soon as a question is asked, doesn't raise hand
- 3) Excitedly jumping up and down in seat with both hands up yelling, I know I know I know.

The teacher returns to front and to the role of teacher and asks students to say what he did wrong, why it was wrong, how it affected the lesson, and what he could do differently/better. Teacher lists what students say on board, things like: raise hand, wait to be called on, be quiet while waiting.

Practice:

Teacher asks class random high interest questions, not necessarily content-related, to let them try raising their hands and answering properly. When students do not raise their hands and answer properly, teacher makes a non-verbal signal to remind them (teacher holds one hand in air and places pointer finger of other hand over lips to indicate the student should raise a silent hand).

Accountability:

For the rest of the period, whenever any student raises their hand and waits silently to be called on by the teacher, the class will get 1 YES point. Whenever a student calls out, raises their hand but does not wait to be called on, or raises their hand but makes noises to get attention, the class gets 1 NO point and the teacher reminds the student what the procedure is by using the non-verbal signal. If the class gets more YES points than NO points by end of the period, they will receive an award, such as 10 minutes at the end of the period to begin their homework.

Consequences:

Habitual repeaters who do not follow the raised hand procedure will be asked either to create a raising hand poster or write an essay about how raising your hand in class is important.

SAMPLE LESSON PLAN #2: Hand Raising

Teacher: Carol L

Grade Level: Middle School

Lesson: Raising Hand to Speak

Lesson Explanation

- A) I will start my lesson for the day and every time a student calls out without raising their hand I will hold up my “Please raise your hand” sign on a stick. I will silently wait until the student stops talking. Then I will ask them if they know what the sign is for. If they say yes, I will have them explain. If they say no, I will tell them that the sign is my way to remind them that they must raise their hand and wait to be called on if they want to speak and they cannot just call out. When they see the sign they should stop talking and raise their hand and then I can call on them.
- B) I will continue with my lesson, using the sign to remind blurters to raise their hands. If I have a student or two who blurts more than twice during the lesson, I will tell them the next time they speak without raising their hand they will have to come up to the front and give me a high five and say “I will raise my hand to speak.”

