

# PoWwer Media News

**Three initiatives to make schooling more engaging, productive and fun for all students.**

**Connect  
what you  
teach with  
real-world  
situations**



Ensuring the subject matter resonates to the students is an important step in engaging them in their study. These tactics were modified from

Pick resources that reflect your culture. Students who don't discover representations of their own cultures in texts are more likely to become disinterested in school-based literacies, according to the National Council of Teachers of English. Ask your students to respond to a brief survey on their extracurricular activities, and then use the results to help you develop your lesson plans. This event will make it easier for your pupils to link what they are learning in class to real-world situations.

Include concrete, daily instances. Talking about how the content may be used in real life is a simple method to make pupils feel more intimately linked to the topic being taught.

According to Collins' recommendations in “[\*Systematic Instruction for Students with Moderate and Severe Disabilities\*](#)”, teachers should show students how to use arithmetic ideas to assist them manage their daily routine, personal money, and dietary needs. Connect learning to routines.

Routines in the classroom can also encourage learning. For example, while learning to wash their hands, a kid may simultaneously learn scientific topics (body parts, hygiene

and disease prevention, and water conservation), reading (bathroom signs), antonyms (hot/cold, left/right), and math during bathroom breaks (counting).



## Use the passions and interests of your pupils

Discover what interests your students most, and then utilize those things as natural motivators to boost engagement. There are numerous easy ways you may employ to include a child's fascinations into your teaching, regardless of whether they are hooked on one item or have several areas of strong interest. The outcome? greater student motivation and happiness.

**Literacy.** Permit a student to incorporate their favorite books, toys, and other items into class reading time. When it was his turn in reading circle, one kid was able to participate after being given the opportunity to talk through a favorite puppet.

**History.** Find innovative methods to incorporate standards-based learning into the enjoyable activities that your pupils enjoy. For instance, one history teacher used the characters from Super Friends to make a comparison between the U.S.'s place in the UN and its connections with other countries.

**Math.** Consider asking a student to compose a problem, graphic, or pattern related to her specific area of interest while developing a math lesson. It's not always obvious how to effectively integrate academic subject with a student's hobbies, but your students could find connections that you don't!

## Give pupils a selection

In [Teaching Everyone, Rapp & Arndt](#) point out that when students are given the freedom to decide how they want to learn, engagement rises. Here are some recommendations: Put pupils in groups. The possibility that each student will participate in class discussion and problem solving is increased when the class is divided into groups.



Ask your kids which type of grouping they like to work in, or try out other combinations. Students might be placed in pairs, small teams of three or four, or half the class. Let them dictate the pace. Allowing pupils to select their own beginning point on an assignment will keep them engaged and comfortable.

Give your children tiered arithmetic exercises, for instance, with escalating levels of difficulty. Find the surface area of a cube, determine the surface area of a rectangular prism, calculate how much wrapping paper is required to cover a rectangular box, and calculate how many cans of paint are required to paint a home with specified dimensions, in that order. The teacher can then lead the class through progressively higher levels of expertise once the students have decided on a starting point.

Consider homework menu. Why not provide a menu of alternatives that relate to your class plan instead of assigning the identical homework to all of your students? A little diversity and freedom of choice may significantly reduce the sense of drudgery that some students feel while completing their schoolwork. Look at this math menu for an illustration of how you give pupils a selection of homework assignments to do.