



# Learning Engagement

Increasing our intentionality on Learning Engagement for every student, in every classroom, every day.

What does it mean to engage?

*Noun* \ 'stü-dənt \ in- 'gāj-mənt, en- \

: the degree of attention, curiosity, interest, optimism, and passion that **students** show when they are learning or being taught, which extends to the level of motivation they have to learn and progress in their education. Source: [www.edglossary.org/student-engagement](http://www.edglossary.org/student-engagement)

## Engagement Strategies 2014–15 Monthly Focus

Sept: Intensity & Enthusiasm

Oct: Pacing & Physical Movement

Nov: Positive Relationship & Humor

Dec: Verbal Feedback & Monitoring  
Student Progress

Feb: Application of Knowledge &  
Questioning

Mar: Connecting to Student  
Aspirations & Connecting to  
Student Life

Apr: Friendly Controversy &  
Inconsequential Competition

May—Fall 2015: Problem-Based  
Learning

**Instructional planning** that couples **learning engagement** strategies with the use of **cognitive strategies** is when **real and sustained student learning** takes place.

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## Strategies

### Intensity and Enthusiasm

Use of personal experience, voice/tone, energy level, & excitement.

### Pacing

Planned pacing of instructional activities with planned transitions, and shifts from teacher to student focus.

### Positive Relationships

Plan for and produce a climate of community and camaraderie.

### Verbal Feedback

Providing intentional feedback on performance individually to every child verbally.

### Application of Knowledge

Planned opportunities for students to apply learning in safe, risk-free, and encouraging environments.

### Connecting to Student Aspirations

Connect learning to students' long term, career, and life goals.

### Connecting to Student Life

Connect learning to students' current interests and daily life.

### Friendly Controversy

Facilitate competitions without consequence; have students take and defend a position.

### Humor

Incorporate funny stories, tales, comics, and get kids laughing.

### Inconsequential Competition

Use of games and non-threatening challenges.

### Monitoring Student Progress

Use of daily formative assessments to closely monitor learning.

### Physical Movement

Get students up and moving regularly during instruction.

### Questioning

Plan for a variety of questions and opportunities for multiple students to respond.

### Problem-Based Learning

Solving real-world, integrated challenges that are student led.