Classroom/Time Management Strategies

**Behavior Goal Setting** - The purpose of setting a behavior goal is to have students choose one behavior in which they need improvement and then focus on that goal for the day. Ask each student to write the goal on a sticky note and place at the top of their desk. Throughout the day, reference the students’ behavior goals and have them rate themselves on their progress. At the end of the day, students could write a short explanation of their goal and positive comments about their progress.

**Walk Around the Room** - This strategy is simple but extremely effective. Don’t sit/stand at your desk or in any one location for too long! Walk around the entire classroom, pausing at strategic locations to help students stay engaged or get engaged in the lesson! A simple tap on a student’s desk as you walk past will nudge the student to pay attention. The subtlety of roaming the room is invaluable as a management strategy.

**Shake it Out** - In order to help students stay engaged and focused, take a Shake it Out break. Students get tired of sitting all day, so help them be active! Take 10-15 seconds to have students stand, jump, touch their toes, reach for the sky, run in place, practice arm circles -- really anything to get them moving. Then have everyone sit down and refocus on the task at hand. Frequent short breaks will encourage focus during the lesson.

Instructional Strategies

**Think-Pair-Share** - This strategy was developed by Frank Lyman, a professor at the University of Maryland, in 1981. After presenting a lesson, pause for a moment and ask students to turn to a partner. Students should discuss the material or concept they just learned. To help initiate conversation, you can prepare questions or prompts for the students. After a specified amount of discussion time, have the pairs share with another pair of students and then share with the entire class. It is best if you model the technique with a volunteer so the students understand the expectations. Emphasize the rules of the strategy as you model the procedure. This strategy promotes enthusiasm and lets the students know that they are not alone in their learning!

**Spaced Repetition** - The spaced repetition strategy builds on simple repetition. It consists of gradually increasing the time between when you repeat a concept. The idea is to repeat a concept just before the students forget it. This allows the students to re-engage and gradually push the information into long-term memory.

How is spaced repetition effective? (The Learning Centres at KPU)
Repeatedly encountering material at a spaced interval is more effective than reviewing the material multiple times in the same study session. Spaced repetition reduces the forgetting that occurs when material is not encountered for a significant time period. Spaced repetition involves actively recalling learned material, which supports learning.

Assessment Strategies

**Ticket Out the Door** - This strategy provides an opportunity for students to write about the lesson. Ticket Out the Door is a formative assessment technique to determine student learning. During the last few minutes of class, provide students with a specific prompt about the lesson. Ask them to jot down two to three sentences. As they exit the room, each student will hand you their ticket out the door. You can use the responses to you evaluate your teaching and inform future planning.

Below are some ideas that add a twist to the ticket out the door (provided by anne@ideasforeducators.com).

- If you were to fill a grocery cart with key concepts from today’s lesson, what would it contain?
- If this lesson were a pizza, what would the toppings be?
- Write a news headline based on what you learned today.
- What new learning will you walk away with today?
- Write a recipe for ______________________________.
- Write a text message summary of what you learned today.
- How does this information relate to money (the economy, jobs, etc.)?
- Write a postcard to a friend or family member explaining what you did in class today.

The resources listed are provided as options and examples. Pennsylvania does not require, recommend, or endorse any specific program or product. All curricular and instructional decisions are made at the local level.