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The Cluttered Desk

Volume 1 Issue 5

"I am not a teacher, but an awakener." - Robert Frost

Welcome to "The Cluttered Desk", the semi-monthly newsletter of Just Us Teachers. You are receiving this newsletter because you have requested a subscription. If you have received this e-mail in error or would like to discontinue your subscription, please see the instructions at the end of this newsletter

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Check out **1, 2, 3 Math Fonts** at www.justusteachers.com/Math_Fonts.html, the newest way to add graphics to your worksheets, flashcards and posters with no cutting and pasting!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!!!!!!!!!!

The lesson plans are up! Math lessons sorted by concept! Check them out at www.justusteachers.com/Lesson_Plans.html!

RESEARCH LINKS – CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT - Are you ready for the new school year? Know how to handle your students? Your lessons? Your desk? Check out the links below for ideas from some of our peers.

What is Your Classroom Management Profile? Take this short quiz and find out!
<http://education.indiana.edu/cas/tt/v1i2/what.html>

You Can Handle Them All - Behavior Index – A very thorough listing of behaviors (i.e the Tattletale, the Angry, the Shy, etc.) and tips on how to deal with them.
<http://www.disciplinehelp.com/behindex/default.htm>

The Friday Fun Discipline Plan – designed for 1st and 2nd grade, but adaptable to others.
<http://www.fortunecity.com/millennium/taunton/1037/teacher/frifun.html>

Classroom Management – A Positive Approach - From Innovative Teaching Concepts. Click on "Handouts & Activity Sheets" for a variety of downloadables.
<http://www.todaysteacher.com/ClassroomManagement.htm>

Ideas for Many Areas of Classroom Management – Great ideas for organization, discipline, classroom management, 1st Day activities, and more!
<http://www.kimskorner4teachertalk.com/classmanagement/menu.html>

OVERHEARD IN THE CLASSROOM

A kindergarten student was looking closely at a one-dollar bill. After studying the picture of George Washington for several minutes, he approached his teacher and had the following conversation...

Child: Teacher, who is that? (pointing to the picture).

Teacher: That is George Washington. He was the President a long time ago.

Child: Oh, he died?

Teacher: Yes, he did.

Child: And he went to heaven?

Teacher: Yes, I am pretty sure he went to heaven.

Child: (long pause) And God turned him into money?

FEATURE ARTICLE

What Kind of Teacher Are You?

By Christopher Norman

Have you ever taken one of those inventories that tell you what kind of teacher you are? How did you do? Are you an authoritarian? A coach? A Leave-Me-Alone-I'm-Taking-A-Personality-Type-Quiz-ster? Well, take our little test below, with REAL questions to find out what kind of teacher you REALLY are...

- 1) You have just come across 2 boys fighting on the playground. You should...
 - A. Break up the fight immediately.
 - B. Start taking bets.
 - C. Have the other students graph the punches landed by each boy.
 - D. Take on the winner.

- 2) During a major test, you observe 2 children exchanging answers. You should...
 - A. Tear up their tests and give them each a zero.
 - B. Ask for help with your taxes.
 - C. Compliment them on their generosity.
 - D. Try to sneak behind them and whisper incorrect answers.

- 3) One particular student asks to go the restroom approximately 1 gazillion times each day. The next time he approaches you, you should...
 - A. Let him go again.
 - B. Write a note home asking that he be restricted from all liquids for the next week or so (just until the problem clears up).
 - C. Give him a rubber band and tell him to go sit back down.
 - D. Tell him to wait until "The Wonders of Waterfalls" video is over.

- 4) While leaving school for the day, you see 2 boys with a slingshot taking turns shooting rocks at a car in the parking lot. You...
- A. Haul their little behinds into the school to call their parents.
 - B. Check to see if the car belongs to someone you like.
 - C. Praise them for taking turns.
 - D. Ask if you can get in a few shots.
- 5) A student approaches your desk to tattle on yet another student. You should...
- A. Listen patiently to the child and address the situation as soon as possible.
 - B. Tell on them to the principal.
 - C. Turn them around and attach a "Tattle-Tail" to the back of their pants.
 - D. Ask them if they have any juicy gossip on your teaching partner.
- 6) You catch a student chewing gum in class. You should...
- A. Tell them to spit it out immediately.
 - B. Ask for a piece.
 - C. Challenge them to a bubble-blowing contest.
 - D. Wait until they blow a really huge bubble and pop it so that it sticks to their hair.
- 7) As you step outside your room, you find a student running down the hall. You should...
- A. Instruct the student to slow down immediately.
 - B. Race him.
 - C. Trip him.
 - D. Ask the custodian to apply an extra layer of wax to the floor.
- 8) Your students are having a food fight in the cafeteria. You should...
- A. Assign them all to detention.
 - B. Leave for the day.
 - C. Cower beneath a table.
 - D. Run to the kitchen, grab a vat of mashed potatoes , and let'em fly!
- 9) In an outburst of anger, a student cusses in class. You should...
- A. Walk him to the office and turn him over to the principal.
 - B. Pretend you didn't hear him.

- C. Have him write the word correctly in a sentence 25 times.
 - D. Assign him to do a 5-page research paper on the origins of the offending word.
- 10) Your students are constantly talking. You should...
- A. Put them all in a "Time-Out".
 - B. Wear earplugs.
 - C. Turn the AC way down in the hope that they will all catch colds and lose their voices.
 - D. 2 words.... duct tape.

How did you do? If you answered "A" to 5 or more items, you are WAY too serious to be reading this quiz. Or your principal is reading over your shoulder. Of course, if you answered B, C, or D, be thankful that you have a sense of humor. Except for that rubber band thing. That's just gross.

BEGINNING OF THE YEAR ACTIVITIES LINKS

Back to School – First Day Checklist

<http://geocities.com/Heartland/Hollow/1213/chklist.html>

Fourteen Great Activities for the First Days of School

http://www.education-world.com/a_lesson/lesson074.shtml

First Day of School Activities - A fantastic variety of ideas. Try them out!

<http://www.cbv.ns.ca/sstudies/activities/1rstday/1rst.html>

Icebreakers/Mixers - Some great games and activities to start off the year.

<http://www.bbyo.org/bbg/ideas/mixers.html>

FEATURE LESSON

Block Designs - A great beginning lesson using pattern blocks for the K-1 class

<http://www.eduplace.com/math/mathcentral/gradeK/koca2.html>

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!! Do you have a lesson, link or funny story that you would like to see here? We welcome your submissions! E-mail us at ezine@justusteachers.com

Did you enjoy this issue? Pass it on to your friends and coworkers! E-mail us and let us know your thoughts! We look forward to hearing from you!

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