

Things to Keep in Mind

- Write down the key concepts you want to explain and all of their sub points and then develop a statement about the overall concept
- Practice breathing in the middle of explaining something
- Relax and enjoy teaching/performing
- Use others as resources when helpful--let them explain
- Don't let students interrupt--wait until they are ready or call out the students and say that's not ok
- Think of fun names for activities
- Define things before asking too many questions to figure out where they are at
- Write down things you learn
- Focus on what you did right too
- It's important to apologize to students if you made a mistake or did something wrong.
- Use timers on the screen on the board to help students understand how much time they will have to work on something before the next transition
- Teachers should not go to their desk during transition time because that will shut students off. It's important for the teacher to be ready to begin the next section as soon as possible so students realize that they need to transition quickly.
- It helps when teachers tell their students that there would be more time later for students to finish an assignment. This helps the students not be so stressed and it encourages them to stay focused on the new material being covered in the class instead of vigorously trying to finish the previous part of the assignment
- Overall, I learned that the most important thing I can do as a teacher is have a good relationship with the students. Even if I teach well, if I don't have a good relationship with the students, their learning won't be as effective because they will be less inclined to listen.
- I also learned that you don't always have to do tons of fun things in the class to have the students respect and like you. You must treat them with respect and get to know them, and they will respond more effectively.

- I also learned that calling out a whole class for misbehavior ends up condemning the whole class, and then more students act out. It's important to let the class know that you expect them to behave well. Then when a few students are acting up, it's important to find productive ways to encourage them to behave.
- I learned that it helps to take extra time while you are teaching to think about the thought process you are going through to come to the conclusion. Simplify things down to the basic idea more.
- Have better handwriting and use board space appropriately.
- I also learned that it's important to leave the work up for as long as possible, and to not erase the board if it's not necessary.
- Ask students how they got to the answer because it gives the students more accountability for what they do or do not understand so they can get the help they need.
- I also learned that engaging activities can become less fun if they are done for too long. Time and variety is really key to organizing a good lesson.