

# Integrating Interactive Activities into Your Lesson Plans



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**What are interactive activities?**

**Interactive activities  
require students to work  
together and communicate  
with each other.**

**What is one benefit of interactive teaching?**

**What is one interactive activity you've tried?**

# Benefits of Interactive Teaching

Increases student talking time, even in large classes

Encourages active participation

Motivates students

Maximizes limited resources

Creates fun and excitement

# Types of Interactions

Whole Class (everyone)

Teams ( $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the class)

Small Groups (3-10 students)

Pairs (2 students)

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## Whole Class: Back to the Board

One student sits at the front of the room with their back to the board. Write a vocabulary word on the board behind them. Tell them the category or topic the word is from.

The rest of the class tries to describe the word so that the student at the front can guess, but they can't say the word on the board.

The student at the front can also ask yes/no questions until they are able to figure out the word on the board.

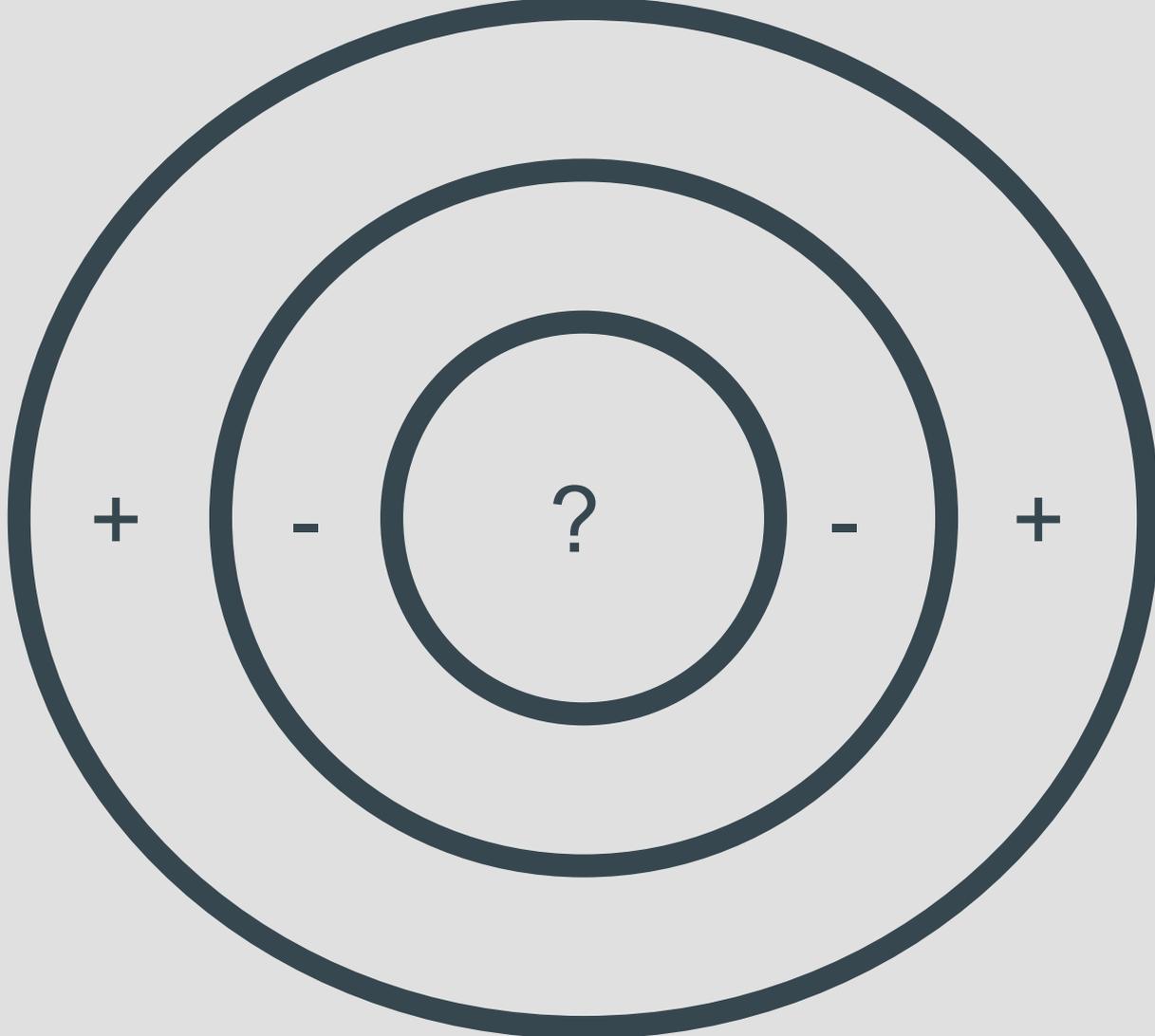
# Teams: Target Game

Draw three concentric circles on the board. Label them +, - and ?.

Divide the students into two teams. Give a student from one team the ball and ask them to throw it at the target.

Ask them to make a sentence according to the area the ball hits (+ is positive, - is negative, ? is a question). If it hits outside of the target, the teachers chooses the sentence type for the student.

If the sentence is correct, their team gets a point.



## Small Groups: Odd One Out

Each member of the group writes three vocabulary words on a piece of paper, two of which that fit together and one that is different.

One student shows their group members the three words they wrote. The group members try to choose which word is the different one. Higher level students can also explain why.

Continue until each group member has shared their list of three words.

## Pairs: One Picture, Many Sentences

Have students divide a paper in half. At the top of the paper, each student draws a picture. Below the picture, the student writes a sentence about their picture.

Students exchange papers with their partners. If there are any errors, they revise the sentence to correct the errors. If there are not any errors, they add new information to the sentence.

The students exchange papers again and repeat until they have a set number of sentences or the teacher says the time is finished.

**How could you fit one of these activities  
into your lesson plan?**

# 4 Ways to Use Interactive Activities

Warm Up

Review

Practice

Reward

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# Planning Checklist

1. Objective
2. Activity
3. Type of Interaction
4. Materials
5. Timing
6. Part of Lesson
7. Instructions
8. Evaluation/Reflection

**What is one interactive activity  
you can use with your students?**

# Think, Pair, Share

Ask students a question, and give them one minute to think silently about their answer.

Give students one or two minutes to share their answers with a partner.

Have some students share their and their partner's answers with the group.

# Interactive Activities

Which will you try  
with your students?

Ball Game

Back to the Board

Target Game

Odd One Out

One Picture, Many  
Sentences

Think, Pair, Share

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# Common Challenges for Interactive Activities

Students don't understand the instructions

Students are too noisy

Students use their local language, not English

Some students participate a lot, but others don't

Students chat instead of working

**How can you prevent the problem?**

**What can you do to solve the problem if it happens?**

Questions?

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