



More Routines

CHOICE, SHARED, AND GUIDED READING: ENTERING AND EXITING A CLASSROOM

Time Frame

First day of school

Questions to consider

- Will you greet students at the door?
- Is it okay for kids to chat?
- What should students do right away when they enter?
- Is there a consequence if they are late to class?
- Is this a whole-school or class-by-class routine?
- Do you assign seats?

Options

- The do now is due five minutes after the late bell sounds. Students can come in and get started as they transition from their last class.
- Smile and shake each student's hand as they enter the room.
- Students hang their backpacks on the back of chairs and scoot their chairs in so it's easier to move around the room. This also helps curtail tripping over bags!
- At the end of class, students are asked to leave the room "cleaner than they found it".


Make it Bizarre

Check out the resource "The First Week in Reading Class" available on www.reading-without-limits.com for tips to make this routine bizarre.

CHOICE AND SHARED READING: DO NOW (MENTAL WAKE-UP, WELCOME WORK)

Time Frame

First week of school



Questions to Consider

- Is the do now on the board or on a worksheet?
- Do kids turn in their do now?
- Do kids store their old do nows in their binder?
- What should kids do when they are done?

Options

- Do nows are most effective when they are routinized. While the do now itself can incorporate different types of questions, I recommend having it in the same place (in the middle of the board, already handed out on desks) daily. Check out www.reading-without-limits.com for a sample do now. See Chapter Twelve of *Reading Without Limits* for different categories one can incorporate in a do now.
- Start grading student do nows as they finish. The first student who gets 100% accurate on the do now takes over and walks around the room grading the rest of the do nows while you finish up administrative tasks. They can use stickers for kids who also get 100% accurate.
- At the bottom of each do now incorporate a “Fast Finisher”. It can be as simple as ‘*you get to read!*’. It’s a major pet peeve of mine to see students in my class staring at the wall when they are done with a do now, so I always incorporate a fast finisher.
- Share with students that they need to take care when doing their do now. Criteria for effective do nows include trying your hardest, doing it neatly, and moving at a fair pace.
- Number each do now. Ask kids to store them in their binder in order. Do nows are a great study tool.

Make it Bizarre

To teach the do now routine, incorporate hidden directives in the first few do nows. For instance, within the directions write ‘*Skip the first three questions. Now, stick your tongue out.*’ Do this to ensure kids are reading directions. Find a student who did an exemplary job on their do now and post it on the board as a model.