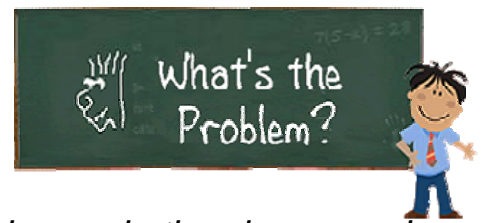


Teacher Instructions:



Problem Scenario: “*Humor in the Classroom*”

The Main Problem: *It has been suggested that using humor in the classroom is an effective way to engage students and help them learn material that might not be so “fun”. You are a classroom teacher who wants to add some humor to your lessons. What is the best way to do this without disrupting your class? How could this change enhance your teaching? In what ways could it be disruptive?*

Your students will be viewing this problem from an **integrated** perspective.



How do you make learning fun?

Students will review tips for teachers to incorporate humor in the classroom, as well as reasons why it is important.

Step ①

**Review
Stimulus
Items**

Stimulus Item #1 — “Using Humor in the Classroom” (article)

Stimulus Item #2— “Fun Activities with Rocks” (samples)

Stimulus Item #3— “Importance of Enthusiasm” (video)

A low-readability option has been provided so students in lower grades can participate in this problem scenario

**ALTERNATE Stimulus and Activity for Lower Grades —
“How to Be Funny” (tips)**

***Students should take notes as they review the Stimulus Items*

Step ②

**Classroom
Discussion**

Lead a **class discussion** about issues related to the topic. You are being provided a sheet to help you guide the classroom discussion.

Extended Responses: Have students answer the following questions. Remind students to use information from the Stimulus Items to support their response.

- 1. Why is it helpful for a teacher to incorporate humor into his or her classroom? In what ways could this be disruptive?**
- 2. What are the best strategies for teachers to incorporate humor into their classrooms without disrupting the learning process?**

Step ③

**Student
Response**

****students should have access to their notes as they enter their answers*

****students may also have access to the Stimulus Items as they enter their answers*

EXTENDED PRODUCT (Optional): Divide students into small groups, and have each group become a **team of teachers**. The teams have decided to make an extra effort to incorporate humor into their lessons this year. This is a topic they will be discussing with parents at an upcoming “Open House.” Each team of teachers must prepare a **short oral presentation** where they explain to parents the strategies they will use to integrate humor into the class, and why it is important to do so. As the groups give their presentations, the other students can act as parents who ask tough questions to the teachers.

Step ④

Analysis

Rubrics to grade student entries have been provided, and all questions have been mapped to the content standards.