

Signaling for Attention

Rationale: Students who do not pay attention often need directions to be repeated or require redirection when tasks are done incorrectly, taking up valuable academic time. Setting up a system in which students immediately give you their full attention when you give a specific signal allows everyone to hear the directions you give.

Goal: To have students give you their full attention whenever you signal.

Preparation: Develop a signal that:

- Grabs your students' attention immediately
- Is easy and convenient to give
- Can be given in multiple settings

Training:

1. Tell the students that you have a signal you're going to use whenever you want everyone to stop and look at you.
2. Demonstrate the signal.
3. Explain that when you give this signal, everyone should
 - "Freeze" or "Stop what they are doing".
 - Look at you.
 - Listen to you.
4. Practice using the signal until all students comply within 5 seconds.
5. Review the signal as needed.

Source: *Teaching Effective Classroom Routine*