

Not a Minute Wasted

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I. What will be discussed?

A. Using your class time effectively-

B. Ideas for efficiently using the extra moments in your day-

II. Why this topic?

A. Ephesians 5:15-16 "Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil."

B. Parents are paying tuition-

C. There is much to teach and learn- "Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and attended to with diligence." Abigail Adams

D. Using our class time wisely and efficiently will help our students build order, efficiency, and diligence into their lives.

III. How can I most effectively build a classroom where not a minute is wasted?

A. Lesson Planning-

B. Organization

1. Teacher-

2. Students-

3. Classroom-

4. Time-

C. Train your students-

IV. What should be done if I find I have extra time in my day? Implement Gregory's 7th Law of Teaching-Review, Review, Review!

A. Before School-

B. When students finish an assignment early-

C. Transitioning between lessons-

D. When you finish a lesson early or find you have more time than expected during the day-

V. What will hinder the wise and effective use of time in my classroom?

A. Lost/Forgotten materials-

B. Student issues-

C. Teacher issues-

Read-Aloud Book Ideas

K-2nd

My Father's Dragon Series-Ruth Stiles Gannett

Mr. Popper's Penguins-Atwater

The Bears on Hemlock Mountain-Alice Dalgliesh

Frog and Toad Books-Arnold Lobel

Dr. Seuss books

2nd-4th

A Toad for Tuesday-Russell Erickson

George's Marvelous Medicine-Raold Dahl

Narnia Books-C.S. Lewis

Blood on the River (about the founding of Jamestown)-Elise Carbone

Toliver's Secret (Revolutionary War)-Esther Wood Brady

Trumpet of the Swan-E.B. White

D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths

Little House on the Prairie Series-Laura Ingalls Wilder

Baby Island-Carol Ryrie Brink

Sarah, Plain and Tall-Patricia MacLachlan

4th-6th

Redwall Series-Brian Jacques

The Hobbit-JRR Tolkien

Twenty-One Balloons-William Pene du Bois

Classic Myths to Read Aloud-William R. Russell, Ed.D.

Trial and Triumph-Richard Hannula

Stuart Little-EB White

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh-Robert C. O'Brien

All Students

The Book of Virtues-Edited by William and Elayne Bennett

Favorite Poems Old and New-Selected by Helen Ferris

I am the Seed That Grew the Tree-Compilation of Poems-Fiona Waters

Activity Ideas For Those Extra Minutes in Your Day

1. Songs/Chants/Grammar Jingles/Poems/History Passage-Practice current and already learned songs, chants, etc.
2. Timeline-Practice your timeline-Recite together or play a game.
3. Scripture Memory-Practice current and previously learned verses.
4. Flashcards-Review Latin or Math fact flashcards-Play a game!
5. Vocabulary Review-Practice reading vocabulary words, have students make sentences or make up a class story using the words. Play a game!
6. Ask questions about the day's lessons-What did you learn about God in The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe today? What kinds of words should always be capitalized? Finish the literature discussion that was cut short earlier in the day.

Tell me something you learned in History or Science today. What more would you like to learn about sharks or King Tut?
7. I would encourage you to always have a book that you are reading to your class, and if you have an extra 5 or 10 minutes continue reading aloud.
8. Have resources handy with stories and poems marked which you can read aloud. Choose poems and stories related to your curriculum or to a fruit of the Spirit or character quality you want to emphasize. Don't be afraid to read favorite poems and stories over and over.
9. Spotlight a favorite artist or composer from the time period you are studying-Show art, listen to music, and keep a biography handy to read aloud.
10. Have students read journal entries aloud-it is good reading and presentation practice for them.
11. Have students practice writing letters (manuscript or cursive) on their white boards.
12. Have students practice memory verses or multiplication facts with a partner.