

White Board Team Game



This should be a basic activity in any Active Learning Classroom! It's FUN and REAL LEARNING takes place!

You need miniature Team White Boards. We made ours by cutting apart one larger one bought at a local hardware store. You can purchase read-made ones, if you have money in your science budget! I've seen them handmade by laminating over white cardboard. You will also need a basket of erasable white board markers and erasers, enough for each team.

Train your students to move into basic team game formation. (**Request my Podcast on Team Games!**) Have one team member pick up the white board, marker and eraser. Each Team assembles in an assigned area, placing the white board so they can work on it without other teams seeing their answers.

Caution them to be careful to wait for your to countdown, which could be, "3-2-1- Show me your answer!" so as to not tip off another team to their answer.

Run White Board Games frequently, at least once a week. (They don't have to last long.) **They are a wonderful, active learning way to review for a test!** Works great for the 13-15 year old bunch! I love to see their heads together, working out good answers.

Examples of Team White Board Games

that require heads to work together:

1. **Metric Conversion Team White Board Game:** dictate a problem, such as “5 millimeters = ? centimeters. Give them a very short time to get it done, then, “3-2-1-Show me your answer!” Each Team gets a point if right. Be sure to throw in a weird one near the end to make a point, such as, 1 yard + 20 inches = ? feet. After they groan, they don’t really have to do it.
2. **Basic Test Review Team White Board Game:** I’ve actually used the actual test hidden in a folder on my podium, and asked actual questions or something similar. The answers are written on the white board by each team. Give them no more than 5-10 seconds, and go for the reveal!
3. **Use Your Foldable Team White Board Game:** It’s an accepted fact that making a Foldable is NOT ENOUGH! Your students must use the Foldable in various ways to bring the material home to roost. Have each student bring their Foldable to the Team Area. Ask questions based on the Foldable, what you know will be on the unit test.
4. **Safety Scenarios Team White Board Game:** Go here for great simple lab scenarios: <http://www.sciencesafetyconsulting.com/pdf/HSAactivities.pdf> <<http://www.sciencesafetyconsulting.com/pdf/HSAactivities.pdf>> Students bring their lab safety contract with them. Read a scenario, give them 5 seconds to think and write down the rule number that was broken. If it’s different from what you were thinking but they can give a good argument, give them the point.
5. **Unit Vocabulary Team White Board Game:** Read a definition of a unit term and give them 5-10 seconds to write the word down. This would be AFTER you’ve done the Team Game Vocab Game where they match game cards of vocab and definitions and then do the Cut & Paste Vocab Worksheet. Three different great methods to review science terms right before a test!
6. **Element Names and Symbols Team White Board Game:** If you require them to know elements names and symbols, hold up a symbol, give them a few seconds to write the element down (correctly spelled!). You could also do the opposite!
7. **Minerals Team White Board Game:** Read a list of a minerals attributes, like luster, hardness, color, streak, streak or cleavage from the Mineral Identification Charts at the back of your textbook. Give the students a few seconds to write down the correct mineral name.
8. **Clouds Team White Board Game:** Read the description of a cloud to the class. Give them a few seconds to sketch and label the cloud. Or : Show them a larger sketch of a cloud and have them write down the name. Bonus if they can tell you if it’s water droplets or ice crystals.
9. **Moon Phases Team White Board Game:** Hold up sketches and ask for labels. Or describe a moon phase and ask for the phase name.
10. **Half Life Calculations Team White Board Game:** If you teach half life calculations, dictate a simple problem and give them enough time to make the basic calculation. This is one game where giving enough time for most teams to finish is a good thing!