

Name/Title: Box of Mystery

Purpose of Event: To improve the attention and focus of students prior to receiving instructions. In addition, to create interest in the activity during the introductory set.

Suggested Grade Level: PRE-K

Materials Needed: Sturdy box (size may vary). Wrapping paper, markers, etc... used to decorate the outside of the box to make it interesting and suspenseful.

Description of Idea

Take a box and decorate the outside any way that you like. I use wrapping paper that is black with different colored stars on it. Get creative! Prior to the start of class, place one piece of each type of equipment being used for the lesson inside the box. Explain to the students that this is a box of mystery because no one knows what is inside the box. Shake the box to let them hear what is inside (this increases the suspense). Allow the students to try and guess what is inside the box. Next, stick your hand inside the box and pull out the piece of equipment to be used during the first activity and then give directions for the activity. During the activity put the box aside and repeat the procedure for each activity.

Variations:

This could be helpful as an addition to your introductory set for older children if used sparingly.

Submitted by **Barry Ward** who teaches at Franklin County Educational Service Center in Columbus, OH. Thanks for contributing to PE Central! **Posted on PEC: 9/26/2003.**

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