

My/Best/Classroom/Idea S From/A/to/Z

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Aa

- Absence folder; to collect work for your absent student

We're sorry you were away,
Here's what you missed today

- Arrivals; give teachers a day to prepare for arrivals mid year, also collect for new arrivals all year
- Amaryllis for measurement; grows measurably each day
- Apple for the (first) teacher; poem and apples for parents

Bb

- Bead jar; reward the whole class

- Birthday Chair; decorate with a helium balloon, poster souvenir; January, February, March, April, May –
Someone is having a birthday today!
June, July, August, September –
Birthdays are days we always remember!
October, November, December, HOORAY!
_____ is having a birthday today!
- Buzz; 5 minute word review game

Cc

- Crayons; sort your lending crayons
- Class name; pick a “team name” use it as a theme, learn about it in a research unit
- Christmas exchange; stocking stuffers instead of gifts
- Cold pack; inexpensive version
- Ceiling displays and using clothespins
- Craft Eyes; stickers on a roll
- Classroom containers; from the arena
- Cheers for word wall words

Dd

- Digital timer; use for time outs, dawdlers, computer turns
- Daily schedule; post it every day on illustrated cards

Ee

- Emergency folder; record student info on cards in a folder
- Easy Easter Basket; using a paper plate

Ff

- Instead of food color; use inexpensive crepe paper

Gg

- Great Junk giveaway; to clean up at years end

Hh

- Hall pass; 2 washroom passes, around their neck or left on the desk
- Hi-liter; use on child's work, to scribe, mark your masters
- Home folder; send home once a week with important info
- Hiccups; cure with 3 long slow swallows

Ii

- Ice tubes; for water bottles

Jj

- Job jar; names on tongue depressors

Kk

- Kissing Hand; first day of school – songs, poems, tour the school, treat

Ll

- Labels; to save yourself printing their names, and send messages home
- “Laptops” made of a file folder for vocab or spelling practice
- Leprechaun Traps; fun for St Pat’s Day
- Library markers

Mm

- Magnets; buttons, hooks, clips, frames – try a sign shop.
- Magic number; abc order by **first name**
- Magic scrap; reward for quick cleanup
- Microphone; mini radio/ tape player with microphone
- Making faces; with multicultural paper and hair “tracers”
- Mini chalkboards, white boards and more for fun word practice.

Nn

- Neat print; easily reward with “fancy N” stickers
- Neat Pete; puts his card in tidy desks
- News; instead of Show and Tell
- New life for old books; make your own cover

Oo

- “Old favorites” when they’ve heard the story before
- One on One testing; send it home for parents to scribe

Pp

- Painting idea; fold a few inches under for a story, print name in crayon
- Poppies; how to keep them on
- Privacy screens
- Printing worksheet websites;
 - www.handwritingworksheets.com words
 - www.dltk-teach.com letters
 - www.acme.com license plates
 - www.makingfriends.com little "people"
 - www.puzzlemaker.com makes vocab word searches
- www.sbac.edu/~tpl/info/onlineresources.htm for posters
- Pointers; fly swatters, wands and dowels with erasers
- Pencil Boxes; from a milk carton
- Palm reading; one word for them to practice all day
- Practice Placemat; on a dollar store paper placemat, extended with word cards
- Primary Success; a Canadian teachers magazine for primary grades, available on line as well.
 - www.primarysuccess.ca

Qq

- Quiet dice; use craft foam or drawer liner, and teach the “hockey net” throw

Rr

- R & R; lights out, quiet music and a backrub
- Read the Room; use plastic glasses
- Ruler problems; photocopy the ruler

Ss

- Staples; no jackhammers! Lift the stapler on a corner, get a good remover
- Soap foamer;
- Story map; **b** beginning, problem, setting, characters
m middle - four events or actions
e end, winds up story (refers to problem)

Tt

- Traveling Toby; the bear who visits with a diary
- Teacher pins and buttons- make it yourself for less

- Teeth; tape on a “tooth shape” order a necklace, send “Tooth Journal”
- Try cards; helps with invented spelling,

Uu

- Unbirthday; song by Sharon, Lois and Bram from Alice in Wonderland

A very merry Unbirthday to you, to you

A very merry Unbirthday to you, to you.

It's great to sing to someone and I guess that you will do.

A very merry Unbirthday to you!

Vv

- Volunteers; think outside the “box” for your volunteers, and thank them with a dedicated library book

- Vaseline; for the “lick spot”
- Velcro; to hold your nametags

Ww

- Water; and water bottles
- Whisper Phone; out of plumbing pipe
- Wrist reminders; print, copy, cut it and tape it on
- Work Folders; to help with storing loose papers in the desk

Xx

- BoXes; making recycled boxes and other containers work for you and look good.

Yy

- Year End suggestions; easy year book, and letter to next years student.

ZZ

- Zero the Hero; every 10th day he brings something round for math activities.

Feel free to email me with any questions. Be sure you put "teachers convention" or similar in the subject line, or I might erase it! My address is megangl@gmail.com