



LINC Activities

‘Reversed classroom’

LEARNING SHEET

IN THIS ISSUE

About the activity

The ‘reversed classroom’ activity has been suggested by the school of Sandarne. The activity aims first and foremost to creating new interactions and a way of understanding what we do in school for the parents. This also gives the students a chance to gain confidence, the parents to actually learn something new, and it gives the teacher a chance to explain what kind of challenges we face at our work every day.

Aims and objectives:

The activity aims at:

- Bringing teachers, parents and students together
- Forging the link between family and school
- Encouraging and enhancing active engagement of parents in school life
- Giving parents the knowledge they need to be able to help with homework
- Giving students a chance to take pride in their knowledge and giving something back to their parents

Regarding educational goals and pedagogies, there is a strong focus on:

- Enhancing the ability to have mathematical discussions
- Enhancing the ability to plan and to carry through a sports activity
- Creating, processing and perform music in cooperation with others.
- May vary depending on chosen subjects. In this case we chose; mathematics, gymnastics and music.

Get it Started!

- Figure out what subjects your students want to be teachers in
- Figure out what the **parents** want and need to be taught in
- Obtaining parents’ participation agreement
- Start planning the activities with the students
- Get materials needed, prepare.
- Choose a time and a date most suitable for everyone involved.



Who will be involved?

- Teachers
- Parents and family members
- Students

Step by step...

by LINC team

1st step: Raise the idea to students

2nd step: Inform parents about this learning initiative and intervention, start discussion on Linc community

3rd step: Plan carefully the activity in collaboration with the students

4th step: Weigh in the parents suggestions and needs

5th step: Set the date

6th step: Start planning the different activities in detail. Materials needed, tasks for all students etc.

7th step: Do the activity



OVERVIEW OF THE IDEA

The 'reversed classroom' activity is to take place during after school hours and will be co-planned with the students who also will be leading many of the activities and groups. An invitation to all parents of a certain class will be sent out before the activity and also with a RSVP to help plan the group sizes to optimal level. On arrival the parents will be split up in to 4-5 groups depending on chosen activities, they will be assigned a pupil guide who will show them around during the day. The activities will be split up in different classrooms and be prepared by the pupils. One of the rooms will be for teacher-parent info only and the others are to be set up by the needs of, and/or the most suitable projects for the group. The following are the activities we plan to do at our school.



Make a poll on Linc community asking the parents what they want to know about and what they need to learn. Have an open forum with discussion and agree upon this before starting, raising the awareness and the willingness for the project to a maximum.

What's the "turn out" from it all?

As we teachers often experience that parents don't necessarily understand the situation in the school. Parents sometimes contact the school in need of advice on how to best help their child with different kind of homework or with preparations for a test.

Aside from that there is even harder for them to understand what goes on outside the classroom. Happiness, conflicts and arguments happen every day on the school yard over things the parents have no chance of knowing about.

Consider beforehand:

- How do we make this a part of our curriculum
- What do the parents need to know
- What do the parents want to know
- What do the students want to teach and what are their limits
- Which student is best placed where, consider personal growth for student as well as the quality for the parents

What we chose to do:

Activity #1: Music – playing different instruments.

The students used their instruments to instruct the parents on how to play the song “smoke on the water” together. The instruments used were guitar, bass, drums and piano.

Activity #2: Gymnastics – school yard game.

The students instructed and played a very popular game that is often played during the breaks. The games results in both conflict, joy and sorrow and is a big part in many of the students lives.

Activity #3 : Mathematics – how we calculate in class.

The students brought the parents up to date on what methods we use in class to calculate different types of mathematical assignments.



Reactions and evaluation

The overall reactions from the parents were positive. These activities were planned alongside with a yearly scheduled information meeting and is a good opportunity to give well needed information. To use this activity raised the awareness of the meeting to an almost 100% attendance and made some of the more reluctant parents come since their child was involved in one of the activities. They clearly stated that this form of meeting was well appreciated and something we should use more often.

The student's reactions were overall positive. They grew in confidence and they got a chance to show their parents what they do most of their time. They said; “it feels good that we can show them what we learn and how important it is”. This concept was agreed upon to be something we will continue using many more times.