

She Stopped the Video Frequently

Stacey Allred taught a video-guided workshop on ***The Effective Teacher***. She used “Aha” pages to reflect on the video. See her work in the **Going Beyond** folder for Chapter 5 at EffectiveTeaching.com.

Stacey Allred is a teacher in Hobart, Indiana. Stacey also teaches K–12 general education college students at Indiana University Northwest. She focuses on procedures and routines as the basis for classroom management.

She believes that what the Wongs teach in their books, videos, and eLearning course about classroom management can be easily adapted by all teachers, whether they are teaching in a regular classroom, a resource setting, or an inclusive setting.

Still, we often hear the cynical statement, “I don’t see how this applies to me. I teach high school and this all looks so elementary.”

Stacey’s knowledge and experiences in special education give her a broad perspective on classroom management, and she says the Wongs’ materials and resources can be used by all teachers at all grade levels, including those in special education, to effectively manage their classrooms.

Witness an “Aha” Moment

Stacey uses an “Aha” (pronounced Ah-Ha) method to engage her teachers at Indiana University. She distributes Aha sheets and stops at intervals for discussion throughout her presentation. She encourages students to write Aha (light bulb) moments on how they can effectively implement in their own classrooms what they see or hear during the presentation.

Depending on time and how much people have to share, Stacey asks teachers to turn to a neighbor and share two things from their Aha sheets. Sometimes she asks for volunteers to share from a large group. Or, she splits people into smaller groups and gives each group a question to discuss and brainstorm. Sometimes, the group simply shares Aha moments.

[Click here](#) to see her Aha sheet.

To see what Stacey teaches, [click here](#) for a sample of some of her visuals.

Visualize an Aha Moment

Imagine you are teaching a class, as Stacey does, and as the slides are shown, you stop frequently to allow for Aha moments, when you ask the class to reflect on what they see, what they hear you say, and what personal reflection or insight you want them to write on the Aha worksheets.

Application of an Aha Moment

Five physical education teachers at Spaulding High School in Rochester, New Hampshire, heard Harry speak at a meeting about bellwork. Instead of complaining about not having a chalkboard to write down the bellwork assignment, they had an Aha moment. When their students walk into the gym, they are greeted by a large white board propped up against a chair. On the board is a welcome message and instructions on what to do at

the start of the class period. What the students see is a result of a unified Aha moment. **The teachers had a problem to solve (how to deliver the assignment to students) and worked collaboratively to come up with a workable solution.** (Harry shares a photo of this board during his speeches. In the photo, the teachers are posed by the board. Harry jokingly reminds his audiences that normally the teachers aren't there to greet the students. They posed for the picture knowing it would be shared with thousands of educators around the world!)

Like Stacey, we do not believe in giving teachers pat answers on what to do. We prefer to share what other teachers have done successfully in their own classrooms, regardless of grade level or subject matter. We believe in fostering Aha moments so that teachers can generate their own classroom management plans.

Your Own Aha Moments Online

This is the approach we take in our eLearning course on Classroom Management. We demonstrate how over 30 teachers manage their classrooms, ranging across the spectrum of teachers. **More than half of the examples we present come from high school teachers.**

Our assignment to the person taking the eLearning course is to reflect on what these teachers are doing and then create a binder with their own classroom management plan.

This is why structuring a lesson to allow for Aha moments increases student comprehension, as shown by the research of John P. Rickards.

Susan Riedel of Galveston, Texas, took the eLearning course, and this is what she says:

“After completing this exciting course, I have come away with a great binder that will help me organize my classroom.”

See www.ClassroomManagement.com for more information on this course.