



ENGAGING STUDENTS IN TUTORING

Tips and Strategies for Online Environments

Kids love it when grown-ups are silly.

We're going to watch a video from May Charm where we see a tutor being very expressive and exaggerated to keep young students engaged in a virtual learning environment. The tutor emphasizes smiling, friendliness, and silliness to build rapport with students.



If the video does not play, click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W14VxDV9_OI&feature=emb_title



Let's reflect on what we saw in the video from May Charm.

- What was your main takeaway from the video?
- Even though we know it's effective, being silly for kids can make us feel **embarrassed or awkward**, especially if we are not used to this exaggerated style of communication. What supports do you need (practice, training, environment, ideas) to help you feel comfortable and confident with trying silly things with your students?



We can learn a lot from virtual ESL teachers.

Although this video from Mike's Home ESL is designed for people teaching ESL, the lessons about being prepared to teach online transfer well to teaching reading to K-3 students.



If the video does not play, click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxEWzR3WDJQ&feature=emb_title



Let's reflect on what we saw in the video from Mike's Home ESL.

- What are your biggest takeaways from this video?
- How will you transfer these tips, designed for an ESL classroom, to reading tutoring?
- Are there any tips from Mike that you don't think apply to virtual reading tutoring? Why or why not?



Now let's see what this looks like in a guided reading activity.

In the upcoming video from The Helpful Teacher, we get advice from teacher Monique Jackson on how to conduct a guided reading lesson with kids in a virtual environment. This video includes tips for

- Setting up a comfortable environment
- Questions to ask students
- Creating opportunities for virtual interaction with students, including whiteboard features.

Although this tutorial is based on Zoom software, the examples and advice are transferrable to other platforms like Microsoft Teams.

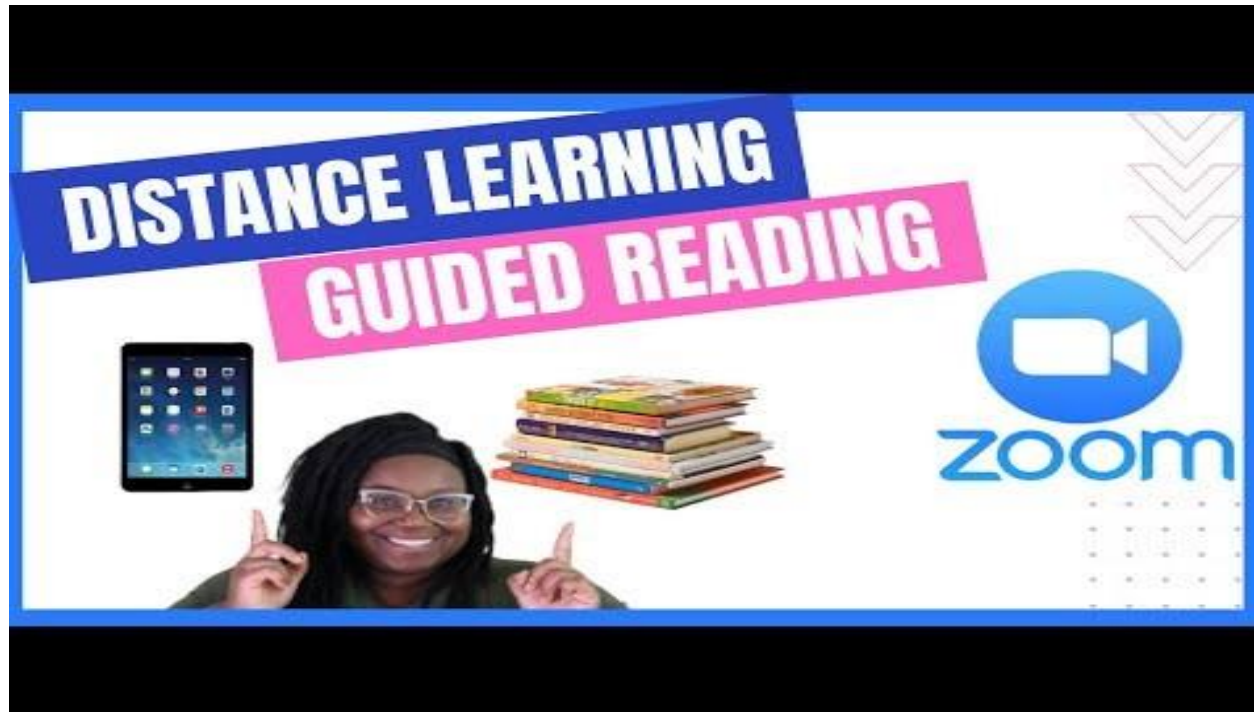


As you watch the video, think about the following questions:

- What are your biggest takeaways from this video?
- What technology features does the teacher use that you would like to try? What technology/software knowledge or skill did the tutor have that you will need? How will you gain that knowledge or skill?
- What technology knowledge or skill would students need for this session? How can you help your students be successful with the technical side?



Now watch this 8-minute video from The Helpful Teacher.



If the video does not play, click this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mrALNkl4AbE&feature=emb_title



Now that you've seen the video, let's revisit these questions.

- What are your biggest takeaways from this video?
- What technology features does the teacher use that you would like to try? What technology/software knowledge or skill did the tutor have that you will need? How will you gain that knowledge or skill?
- What technology knowledge or skill would students need for this session? How can you help your students be successful with the technical side?

