

Tania Aguirre

## **Behavior Management Plan**

### **(Lack of Participation)**

#### **Student Behavior:**

Student a is a 6th grader at Zaboni Middle School. He is a Mexican-American boy who was held back in 3rd grade. He is bigger than most students in his class and seems to be the “cool kid” in his group. He walks into class with his hoodie on and noticeably late. He sits down in his assigned seat and mostly keeps to himself, but at times can be distracted by talking to his classmates. He never participates in class readings, discussions, and rarely begins doing his work without the nudge of a the teacher.

#### **Purpose of Behavior:**

Some reasons for the lack of participation from students include; personality, lack of confidence, not being engaged, and home factors. Introverts, for example, might be less inclined to participate in class activities. Lack of confidence can big a huge factor, especially at this particular age. During adolescent students are concerned about what others think of them and tend to hold back. Another reason would be the home environment, students could potentially be dealing with things that don't allow them to concentrate in class.

#### **Teachers Perspective:**

*“One thing I do when students are not participating is talk to them after class. Asking them how I can help make participation easier is a plus. Students tend to open up when you approach them one on one”*

-Ms. Mendez, 6th Grade Language Arts

*“Giving students the option to bounce off of what other students said always increases participation.”*

-Ms. Aldridge, 6th Grade Language Arts

**Strategies to Modify Behavior:**

- **Create an engaging lesson-** Create an engaging lesson. It is more likely that students will participate. If students are interested in what is being taught and are intrigued with the lesson they will be eager to participate.
- **Co-create a caring/respectful classroom environment-** Create a caring and respectful environment that allows students to feel comfortable enough to share their thoughts and participate in class.
- **Create a participation space-** Set up your classroom to encourage participation. Maybe a U shaped seating arrangement or maybe groups. Whatever works for your students, seating arrangement that allows for participation is important.
- **Create Participation roles-** Setting up group leaders or time keepers, any role that helps students stay engaged helps.
- **Reduce participation anxiety-** A way to reduce anxiety is by allowing students to ease into sharing with the whole class. Allow students to think of an answer, then share with a partner, then with a group, and finally with the entire class.
- **Provide feedback/reward-** ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS give feedback. In order for students to feel validated, and heard give them positive feedback. By letting them know their opinion matters you are encouraging them to participate.

- **Give students option-** Giving students options makes them feel like they are in control and in turn are more likely to participate.
- **Provide sentence starters-** Providing sentence starters gives students the confidence to participate by letting them know exactly what you want from them. Sentence starters give students confidence to participate in the classroom.
- **Make it constant-** Constantly allowing or expecting students to participate in your class will make it a “normal” thing for them. The more they participate the more comfortable they will feel with it.

**Online Resources/References:**

<https://www.cmu.edu/teaching/solveproblem/strat-dontparticipate/dontparticipate-03.html>

<https://expertbeacon.com/how-inspire-and-motivate-students-participate-class/#.V6OgIugrLIU>