

A FEW “IMPROV(E)MENTS” FOR YOU/YOUR TEAM!



• Crazy 8's

Form a circle. For eight counts each person shakes out each limb, beginning with the right arm. In each round, the players count up to one less number, until everyone is quickly waving their entire body shouting "1! 1! 1! 1!"

• Zip, Zap, Zop

Form a circle. The three commands are Zip Zap Zop. The impulse starts with one person looking at another, making eye contact and saying "Zip." That person looks at anyone else and says, "Zap" and that person looks at anyone

else and says "Zop". After the pattern is established, the group speeds up and adds pointing to the look and command. When one person makes a mistake (says the commands in the wrong order, says something that isn't a command, hesitates) the entire group owns the mistake with an AaahhhOOOgah.

• Yes, And vs Yes, But

The group picks an object or focal area and stands/sits in a semi-circle in front of it. The first person says, "I see [something they see, let's call it 'x']." The second person says, "Yes, you see [x] and I see [something THEY see, let's call it 'y']." The third person says, "Yes, you see [y] and I see [something THEY see, 'z']". This continues through the line. The important connection is the YES and the AND – both need to be mentioned. The activity can then progress to 'I think' following the same script – then 'I wonder'. Both of these must be accompanied by the "yes, and" – 'Yes, you think [x] and I think [y].'

This can further progress using statements. The first person says, "I think this election cycle has been crazy." The second person says, "Yes, you think this election cycle has been crazy, and I think it's been entertaining." The third person might say, "Yes, you think it's been entertaining, and I think it's garbage." Now, try the activity with "Yes, But" to see the difference.

Speaking Tips:

- Speak up! If we can't hear you we won't care.
- CARE. If you don't care, why should we.
- Be specific. If you don't know, we won't either.
- Be clear. If we can't understand you, we won't listen.
- Stand up straight! You'll look more confident.
- Make eye contact. It helps us pay attention.
- BE YOUR BEST SELF FOR YOUR AUDIENCE!

The Engaging Educator
PO Box 839
New York, NY 10163-0893
929.256.2920

FOLLOW: [@TheEngagingEd](#)
LIKE: [Facebook](#)
SUBSCRIBE: [#YesAndTube](#)
www.theengagingeducator.com