

Teaching Tip 2: Reading Aloud

How:

1. Pick a student and ask him/her to read the instructions for Activity 1/2/3 or whatever. 'Marco, please read the instructions for Activity 2 for us'.
2. Pick a different student each time.

Why:

1. It saves you doing it.
2. You can check pronunciation.
3. It will help with oral reading skills.
4. The other students may well understand the instructions better when read by another student.
5. The students are more likely to listen to another student than to you.
6. If they all read the instructions silently they will all finish at different times. If they listen to someone reading the instructions out loud they all finish at the same time.

Extra Info:

Getting students to read aloud used to be unpopular because the powers that be said that it was unrealistic as we never do it in real life - you read books silently, don't you?

Things have changed since then as it has since been argued that we DO do it, e.g. "Hey, listen to this! It says in the paper here that you should consider Murphy's Law before getting married in Las Vegas! Listen - If you're one of those people who believe weddings should be picture-perfect occasions with the only hitch happening at the altar, you should familiarize yourself with Murphy's Law. For instance, thanks to Las Vegas Terri Baker, we know not to plan an outdoor ceremony at a national park during flash flood season. And we learned that one should never store a wedding cake in a chest full of ice then let it bounce around in a moving RV for hours..", etc.