



# SAY LESS, TEACH MORE

Teacher communication shapes how students engage. When your message is clear and focused, students are more likely to connect, remember, and act.

## » Define the Core Message

What's the one idea you want students to walk away with? Write it in 10 words or fewer.

## » Eliminate the Noise

Cut jargon, extra steps, and filler. **Ask:** Does this detail move the learning forward? If not, trim it.

## » Make it Sticky

Use a visual, story, or analogy to anchor the concept. **Example:** Teaching fractions? Use pizza slices, not abstract numbers.

## » Align Words + Actions

Check your instructions, tone, and body language. **Ask:** Am I saying what I mean, and showing it too?

## » Check for Clarity

Ask a student to restate the message in their own words. If it doesn't match your core idea, refine and repeat.

## » Core Message Examples

### Collaboration

- *Core Message:* Ideas improve when shared.
- *Application:* Peer feedback strengthens group projects.
- *Check:* Which part of your idea changed after discussion?

### Growth Mindset

- *Core Message:* Effort leads to improvement.
- *Application:* Revise work or try again after mistakes.
- *Check:* What did you do differently this time?

### Lesson Framing

- *Core Message:* Clarity creates confidence.
- *Application:* Start lessons with one guiding question.
- *Check:* Can students summarize today's key idea?

### Parent Communication

- *Core Message:* Context matters as much as results.
- *Application:* Include reflections on student growth, not just grades.
- *Check:* Do parents understand how the student progressed?

### Critical Thinking

- *Core Message:* Questions drive deeper learning.
- *Application:* Students explore multiple solutions, emphasizing reasoning over "right answers."
- *Check:* Can a student explain their approach?

### Problem Solving

- *Core Message:* Challenge uncovers potential.
- *Application:* Pose open-ended problems for creative solutions.
- *Check:* Can students explain what they learned from the challenge?