Teach Like a Pirate Teacher Resource Hooks

Use these cards to design your daily lessons and to maximize your presentations to make learning more engaging. These questions are meant for you to generate and jot down presentation ideas that work for your individual teaching style. Eventually, you will have a set of "hooks" that work for you!

**Kinesthetic Hook**

- How can I incorporate movement into this lesson?
- Can we throw something, roll something, or catch something inside or outside of class?
- Can we get up or act something out?
- Can we incorporate gestures and motions that students could do at their desk?
Kinesthetic Hook

- Can we turn the room into a giant opinion meter and have the students move to one side or the other based on the statement?
- Can I change the structure of this lesson from a seated activity to a walk around activity?

The People Prop Hook

- How can I use students as props, inanimate objects, or concepts?
- Can we create a human graph, chart or equation?
- Can students be assigned a specific step in the process or an event and then have to order themselves sequentially?
The Safari Hook

- How can I get my class outside my four walls for this lesson?
- Where would be the best place on campus to deliver the content?
- Is there an area in the school that serves as the perfect backdrop?
- Can I plant key items outside for us to discover?
- Can we leave the campus to the ultimate location to teach this material?

My Examples: ______________________

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The Picasso Hook

- How can I incorporate art into this lesson?
- What can my students draw or make that would help them understand or retain this information?
- Can they make some kind of non-linguistic representation of the material?
- Can I create an art-based option that students could choose instead of another assignment?

The Arts
The Picasso Hook

My Examples:________________________
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The Mozart Hook

• How can I use music to aid my presentation?
• What would be the perfect song or type of music to create the right mood?
• What songs have lyrics that relate to this lesson?
• How can I most effectively use music as they enter the room?
• What should we listen to as students are working independently or cooperatively?

The Mozart Hook

• Can I allow students to create songs/raps that demonstrate their understanding of the content?
• Can students change lyrics to popular songs to reflect course content?
• Can I use music to make my transitions smoother?

The Mozart Hook

My Examples:________________________
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Dance and Drama Hook

• Can I provide opportunities for my students to do skit or videos related to what we are learning?
• Can they learn and perform a relevant dance?
• Can some of the students teach a dance to the class?
• Can they impersonate key people from history in a panel discussion or interview?

Dance and Drama Hook

• Can they reenact historical events?
• Can they write a script and create a video to play for the class?

My Examples:______________
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The Craft Store Hook

• How can I incorporate a craft into this lesson?
• What can my students make that relates to this material?
• Is there an origami fold that I can teach to the class for this content?
• Can I provide basic supplies and give them an open-ended creative project and turn them loose?

The Craft Store Hook

• Could there be a craft skill my students already possess that could enhance my curriculum and provide them with the chance to be experts?

My Examples:______________
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The Student Hobby Hook

- How can I incorporate the hobbies and outside interests of my students into this material? (Find out their hobbies and interests first)
- How can I harness the power of connecting my content to what students are already interested in?

My Examples:_________

The Real-World Application Hook

- How can I show my students why learning this content is important in the real world?
- How will possibly apply this in their life?
- Can we increase motivation and engagement by offering reasons to learn that go beyond “because it’s on the test”?

My Examples:_________

The Real-World Application Hook

- Can they create something “real” that will be more than a classroom project but actually allow them to interact with the world in an authentic way?

My Examples:_________
The Life-Changing Lesson Hook

- How can I use this lesson to deliver an inspirational message?
- What type of life-changing lesson can be incorporated into the content?
- What type of essential questions can I ask that allow students the opportunity for personal reflection and growth?

My Examples:__________________________

The Student-Directed Hook

- How can I provide opportunities for autonomy and choice in this unit/lesson?
- Can I allow student interest to dictate our direction and learning while still covering what we need to address?
- How can I release some of my control and provide students the chance to be the experts and directors of this subject?

My Examples:__________________________
The Opportunistic Hook

- What current events are related to this lesson?
- Is there a hot topic in the news or on campus that I can use to capture student interest?
- In what ways can I incorporate currently popular trends, fads, TV shows, and movies in order to make this relevant and engaging in the class?

My Examples:___________________________

The Opportunistic Hook

- Can I put intriguing images of current events on the walls with QR codes underneath that link to more information?

Set the Stage

- How can I transform my room to create the ultimate atmosphere for the lesson?
- Can I change the lighting for mood?
- Can I decorate the walls, ceiling, or the floor?
- How can I rearrange the desks for this lesson to be most effective?
- Can I create more desks by removing desks?
**Interior Design Hook**

- Is there a theme party I can I have for this subject?

My Examples: _____________

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**The Board Message**

- What can I write on the board or have projected on my screen that will immediately spark curiosity and interest as the students enter the room?
- What type of message will create a buzz?
- What can I write that will be intriguing and mysterious and will compel students to ask a question?

**The Costume Hook**

- Can I use a QR code?
- Can I have an intriguing image projected that will tie into my content?

My Examples: _____________

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**What can I wear as an outfit or costume for this lesson?**
- Is there an exciting character that I can impersonate?
- Can I create a character that is relevant?
- Can I invent a superhero or super villain for this subject?
- What accessory can I wear to enhance my presentation?
The Costume Hook

My Examples:_____________
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The Props Hook

• What physical item can I bring to add to my presentation?
• Instead of just talking about a book, can I bring it?
• Instead of just talking about a person, can I show them a picture?
• What can I bring that my students can actually hold in their hands?

The Props Hook

My Examples:_____________
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The Involved Audience Hook

• How can I consistently keep the audience feeling involved?
• Can I cue them to make certain motions or sounds at key points?
• Can I incorporate call and response into this lesson?
• Can I, secretly, cue certain students to play a pre-arranged role?
• Can I bring students to the front of the room as volunteer?
The Involved Audience Hook

My Examples: _______________
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The Mystery Bag Hook

• Can I have a closed box or package in the front of the class?
• Can I cut a hole in the box where students can reach inside and feel the contents?
• Can I give hints and open the floor for guesses?
• What can I put in the mystery box to tie to my lesson?

The Mystery Bag Hook

• How can I get students to try to figure out relationship between object and lesson?

My Examples: _______________
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Stand and Deliver
The Storytelling Hook

• What story can I tell that will draw students into the lesson?
• Can I create a high-interest story to fit the lesson?
• Would speaking in character, using an accent, changing intonation, varying volume have an impact on the class?

My Examples: ___________________________ ____________________________

The Swimming with the Sharks Hook

• How can I break down the barrier between teacher and class?
• Can I participate in the activity?
• Can I walk the room and use the whole room as my platform?
• Is there a different place or multiple places I can present from?

My Examples: ___________________________ ____________________________

The Taboo Hook

• How can I position my topic so that it seems like a little-known secret?
• How can I present my lesson as if it’s something they are not suppose to know?

My Examples: ___________________________ ____________________________

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**The Mime Hook**

- How can I use silence to spark interest?
- Can I use written messages to deliver my lesson or opening hook?
- Can I use mime techniques to get my point across?
- Can I incorporate charades or Pictionary?
- Can the students share messages without words?

**My Examples:**

[Blank lines]

**The Teaser Hook**

- How can I spark interest in the lesson by promoting it ahead of time?
- What aspect can I share beforehand to promote curiosity?
- If I were to create a movie trailer for this lesson what would it include?
- If I were planning a marketing promotion for this lesson what would I do?

**My Examples:**

[Blank lines]
The Backwards Hook

- How can I gain an advantage by presenting the material out of sequence?
- Can I tell the end of the story and let them figure out and discover the beginning and middle?
- Can I show them an end product that will make them want to learn the skill presented?

My Examples: ____________________________

Advanced Tactics

The Mission Impossible Hook

- How can I design my lesson so that students are trying to solve a mystery?
- How can I incorporate clues that can be decoded by learning or researching the subject?
- Can they be provided a treasure map or sent on a scavenger hunt through your content?
- What fictitious character or role can they play?
The Mission Impossible Hook
• What crisis must they present?
• Can I change this from a standard assignment to a daring and impossible mission?
My Examples:________________
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The Reality TV Hook
• How can I design my lesson to take advantage of the popularity of reality TV?
• Can I create a Survivor-style challenge and divide the class into tribes?
• Can this be configured as an Amazing Race partner lesson?
• How can I incorporate a Fear Factor type of challenge?
My Examples:________________
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The Techno Whiz Hook
• How can I tap into the technological prowess of my students?
• Can I give my students the option to create projects and turn in assignments digitally?
• Can I create a paperless lesson?
• How can I take advantage that most phones now have a camera, video, and internet capability?
My Examples:________________
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**The Techno Whiz Hook**

- How can I use social media to engage students beyond the school day?
- How can technology help me connect my students to people from all over the world to gain global perspective?
- How can I use the latest apps to create a more powerful and interactive lesson?

**Around the Edges**

**The Contest Hook**

- How can I include a contest in this lesson to build motivation?
- What type of review game can I design to ramp up the entertainment level?
- What kind of in-class challenge can I create?
- Can I be part of the challenge or contest?

My Examples:________________

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The Magic and The Amazing Hook
• What amazing principle can I demonstrate as part of this lesson?
• Is there a magical effect that could help deliver this message?
• Can I teach my students an amazing skill that they will go home and show others?

The Chef Hook
• How can I enhance this lesson by adding food or drinks?
• Can I cook something for the class?
• What type of food would be a perfect match for this lesson?
• How can I use food or drinks to demonstrate a point, serve as an incentive, or help create a positive atmosphere?

My Examples:___________________________
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The Mnemonic Hook
• Are there key bits of information I want my students to know cold?
• Is there a pattern to point out?
• Can the point of the lesson be tied to previous knowledge?
• Does a mnemonic exist for the material?
• Can I design my own mnemonic?
The Mnemonic Hook
• How can I embed a mnemonic theme throughout my presentation to aid retention?
My Examples:________________
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The Extra-Credit Challenge Hook
• What high-interest and motivating challenges can I create that relate to this unit?
• What intriguing mission can I send students on to allow them to extend their learning in a unique way?

The Extra-Credit Challenge Hook
• How can I provide my students the opportunity for an experience that will create life-long memories?
My Examples:________________
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Be Daring!