

make the connection

Research shows that **engaged students** experience:



**improved
academic
achievement**



**higher
standardized
test scores**



**better
social skills**



**reduced
dropout rates**

"Students are engaged when they are attracted to their work, persist despite challenges and obstacles, and take visible delight in accomplishing their work."

- Adam Fletcher, Youth Engagement Expert

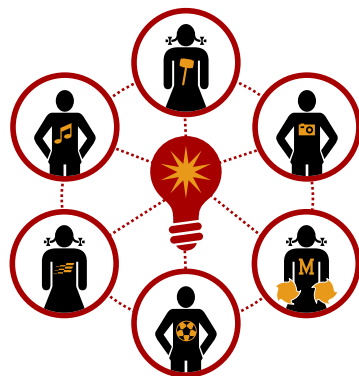
So, how do we engage students?

Award-winning researcher Kristy Cooper examined the impact of three well-supported methods that teachers employ to increase student engagement: **lively teaching** that emphasizes "fun," **academic rigor**, and **connective instruction**.

Connective Instruction

Connective instruction—or helping students make personal connections to learning—increased engagement over other practices by a magnitude of **seven times**. By providing an outlet for students to connect with educators and mentors, **student activities are the perfect vehicle** for providing many of the connective instruction teaching techniques that are significant to the development of **high-quality student engagement**:

- **Promoting relevance:** relating content to students' lives.
- **Conveying care:** understanding learners' perspectives.
- **Providing affirmation:** telling students they are capable of doing well; using praise, written feedback, and opportunities for success.
- **Enabling self-expression:** connecting learning and identity by encouraging students' expression of ideas, values, and conceptions of self.



source:

New Study: Engage Kids with 7x the Effect (Todd Finley, Edutopia; August 25, 2014)



Be a Champion.
Alliance for Student Activities

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