

# Ideas to go...

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The traditional weeklong spring break and warm weather often play havoc with classroom instruction. Students suddenly aren't as focused or motivated as they were earlier in the school year, even though six or more weeks of classes remain. How can you keep your students from getting restless and daydreaming about the summer ahead? Try these tips to turn spring fever into spring action.

- Allow students to act as teacher for parts of the lesson.
- Structure outside learning activities when possible.
- Arrange more in-class projects and less practice time for homework.
- Link learning with other classes: design interdisciplinary lessons.
- Include more group discussions.
- Increase hands-on activities—students especially welcome them.
- Vary your daily teaching style—inductive one day, deductive another.
- Diversify assignments with dramatic presentations, oral reports, and multimedia outlets.
- Extend learning to include outside resources and assignment locations.
- Reward students when goals and objectives are reached.
- Have students complete a project evaluation form and post the results in class.
- Create a scrapbook of the year.
- Stage a spring cleaning day to store books, resource materials, and classroom supplies.

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***spring fever***

