



A Do Now (also referred to as a Warm-up) is a short activity that is posted in the classroom for students to complete as soon as they enter, as part of an Entry Routine. Students should be able to begin Do Now without any specific instruction, and do so using their own materials. This practice provides a focused activity that typically serves as a review of previous content or triggers students to begin thinking about the new learning for the day. While students are working on a Do Now it is an ideal time for the teacher to check homework, send attendance, or provide support to specific students with the assurance that students are engaged in self-directed and purposeful work.

- Determine the content students need to review or start thinking about during the Do Now.
- Create a rigorous and engaging assignment that can be completed within a short amount of time without any guidance.
- Post the assignment, clear instructions, and expectations in a spot where all students can see them.
- Give students a time limit to complete the Do Now, and create a signal for them to use that indicates they have completed the activity.
- Provide feedback to students based on the results of the Do Now.



Additional Tools

Icebreakers or Energizers

These are activities that can be completed at the beginning of the day to promote a positive group atmosphere, help students relax, energize and motivate, or help students get to know each other.

Engage/Connect

A short introductory that captures what is interesting and engaging about the lesson.

For more strategies and/or resources, visit houstonisd.org/EffectivePractices



ALERTS

Some students won't start immediately. Make sure they know what the expectations are by intentionally rehearsing Do Now tasks, when establishing classroom rules and expectations in the beginning of the school year. Students will try to work with their classmates while completing the Do Now. Explain that it is an individual activity to check their understanding of a subject or review previously taught content. Be careful that the Do Now does not become the lesson. A prolonged Do Now will reduce time from other valuable parts of the lesson so keep it short, around five to ten minutes.



QUICK TIPS

Hold students accountable by using a general rubric that students can use to review the work before submitting. Be explicit and consistent with the Do Now routine to foster independence and classroom management. A good idea is to post a series of rules or expectations on how to complete the Do Now.