

# MORE THINKING, MORE HANDS

## Best practices for Wait Time



### Allow students the chance to formulate an answer

On average, a teacher waits less than a second after asking a question for a student response. Giving students 7-8 seconds to formulate a thought allows more students to come up with a thoughtful answer.



### Narrate hands to reinforce that they matter

Audibly calling out how many hands you see up will reinforce for students that you're tracking the hands—and who volunteers them. You can also use non-verbal cues, such as smiling and nodding, to reinforce this.



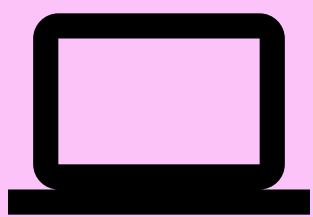
### Keep the vibe encouraging

It can be frustrating to get only a few hands up after asking a question. But students are more likely to venture an answer if you keep your body language positive and encouraging, rather than frustrated.



### Insert a Turn and Talk if necessary

If students are genuinely stumped, insert a Turn and Talk by letting students talk out the question in pairs for 30 seconds. Circulate and listen attentively during the Turn and Talk.



### Additional Wait Time Resources

- <http://teachlikeachampion.com/blog/things-dont-get-many-hands/>
- <http://teachlikeachampion.com/blog/engage-d-cerebral-classroom-culture-aidan-thomas-master-class-wait-time/>
- <http://teachlikeachampion.com/blog/wait-time-insights-workshop-participants/>