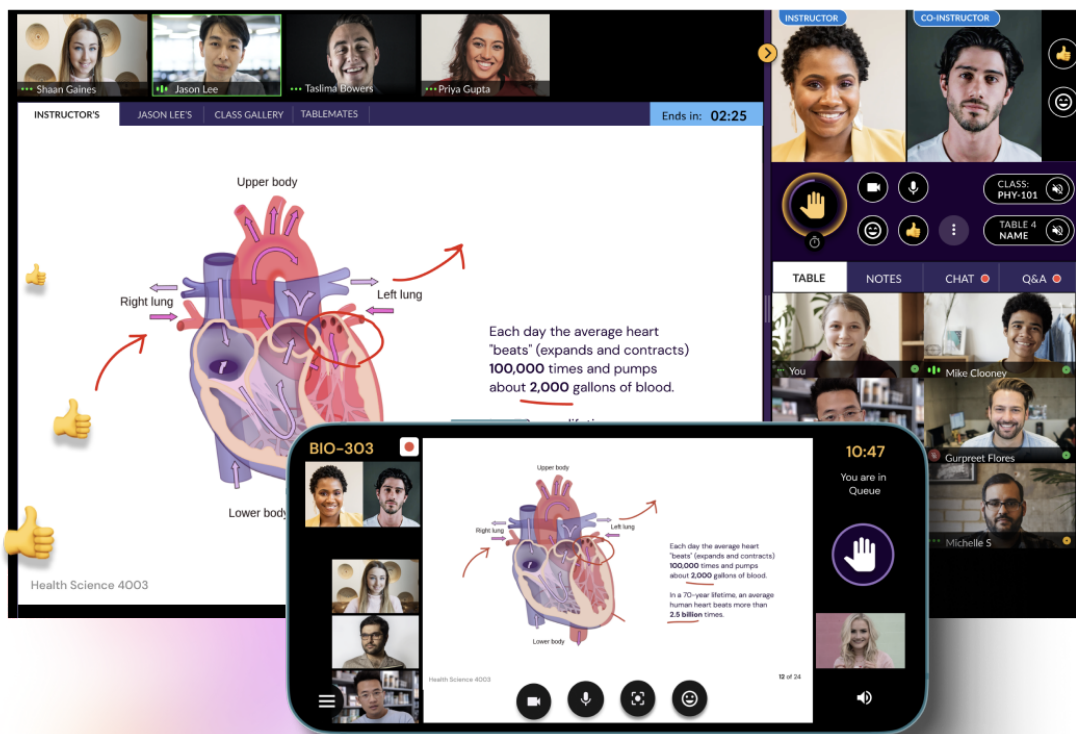


Strategies for engaging learners

There are several instructional pillars that can help learners with their education, including Active Learning, Social Spaces, Applied, and Project-based Learning, Inclusive Spaces, Inquiry-based Learning, and Reflective Thinking. These strategies, when interwoven in the classroom, can help learners gain a richer, deeper understanding of their subject matter, reinforce key concepts, and develop stronger relationships and networks that are important for their career growth.

Engageli is a platform built from the ground up to help educators create and measure engaging learning experiences for their learners. Below are some strategies for fostering engagement and collaboration in a digital classroom.



After assessing engagement strategies, you can design your class to leverage these approaches for your digital classroom.

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1. Increase instructor-learner engagement

1.1. Prepare Tables

The Engageli classroom has tables where ten seats are available per table. Engageli tables are strategically designed to increase collaboration between learners. When a learner joins a class, they are automatically put into groups depending on the table they joined. You do not need to create breakout rooms since your learners are already in groups in the same class.

1.2. Name Tables

Before the class starts, you can rename the tables. Table names can mirror the instruction model and range from project group names, book characters, or course topics to fun Harry Potter names, etc.

Practice: [Name Tables](#)

1.3. Use pre-assigned seating

You can seat learners to facilitate purposeful group collaboration for each class period/each week. learners can sit in other configurations until that group work time and then you seamlessly move them into those groups.

Practice: [Assign Table Groups](#)

1.4. Open the classroom 10 minutes before start time

Learners can find a table of their own or be seated in a specified seating chart purposefully designed by you. The pre-class banter is a good way for learners to know their classmates better and build a rapport with their instructor. You can also set the classroom into discussion mode so that learners seated at any table can talk to each other, or just let the default be where tablemates can talk to each other before the start of class.

Practice: [Start class](#), [Enable class discussion mode](#)

1.5. Record the class

You can configure your class recording to record videos of learners who raise their hands and/or join the podium, or just record the audio of learners. These recordings can be provided for playback.

Practice: [Record class](#)

1.6. Encourage learners to be visible

When all learners allow themselves to be seen and heard, they help simulate a physical classroom environment. Learners are much more likely to pay attention and stay on task when their instructor and peers can see them visually.

Practice: [Use gallery view](#), [Direct class to the gallery view](#)

1.7. Start the class with an icebreaker through Engageli's polls

Relate your questions to the topic of today's class to get learners excited about their learning. This also provides an early opportunity for learners to get comfortable sharing and participating in a low-stakes way, building their confidence in the safety and community of the classroom, and finding connections with other learners through the activity. Instructors can also share poll results with the class then use answers to facilitate group discussions.

Practice: [Create polls](#), [Using Polls](#)

1.8. Upload slides to the class through the chat

At the end of class, you can send slides and other materials to class by attaching files through chat.

Practice: [Share class materials](#)

1.9. Annotate during live instruction

You can annotate your materials in Engageli to promote a deeper understanding of the materials and focus learners on foundational areas.

Practice: [Annotate class materials](#)

1.10. Encourage note-taking during class

Start class by asking learners to write down a topic in the Notes section or capture screenshots of instructor slides. Notes are always private and will give learners an opportunity to reflect week to week on how much they are learning. You can remind learners to download notes from class, and in

between sessions have them look for an answer to a question they jotted down. They could do this through external research, reviewing the class recordings, or connecting with a peer.

Practice: [Take notes](#)

1.11. Gauge classroom sentiment

You can easily share prepared lecture material, then do quick check-ins with the class by asking learners to rate how they are feeling about the learning and material on the emoji scale. If positive, you know to move on. If negative, you can revisit certain points or topics as necessary. Emoji responses are anonymous, too, which typically makes learners more confident in responding truthfully.

Practice: [Review class thermometers](#)

1.12. Check for understanding

You can use thumbs up and down to see responses on a learner-by-learner basis. To see the responses, navigate to your class gallery to see who may need extra support.

You can also embed polls into your lecture slides to gauge learner understanding. At the end of each concept, embed one poll question in your lecture to check learners' understanding of the material. You can use Engageli poll data post-class to understand which learners got the answers correct and for future classes to pair up learners.

Practice: [Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down](#), [Create polls](#), [Initiate polls](#)

1.13. Refocus disengaged or non-participating learners

There are several ways to assess learners who may not be participating in class and solicit participation from those learners. Use the cues in Engageli to help determine if a student may be disengaged or require additional help.

Practice: [Understand engagement metrics](#), [Call on learners to speak](#), [Move learners to different tables](#)

1.14. Distribute in-class exercises to tables

While distributing documents can take a bit of pre-class setup, it is a great way to facilitate learner-to-learners engagement and collaboration. You can

have learners work on in-class exercises together while collaborating on the same document.

Practice: [Distribute table documents](#)

1.15. Track attendance

Instructors can get the attendance of learners in their class from their Engageli administrator or through the Engageli portal. See the portal guide for data metrics available through the portal.

2. Empower learner-learner collaboration

2.1. Play videos during class, then ask learners to discuss in groups

When the clip has finished, screen share a list of discussion questions. Ensure discussion mode is off, and ask learners to discuss each question with their tablemates. Set a timer for the group discussion.

Practice: [Play videos during class](#), [Set timer](#), [Discussion Mode](#)

2.2. Join and/or observe tables during any discussion time

As you facilitate table group discussions or projects, use the Join and Observe functionality to 'walk the tables' in your classroom.

Practice: [Join and observe tables](#)

2.3. Create a 'TA' table for learners to go to if they need extra help

This allows TAs to help learners without disrupting the rest of the class. Just make sure to mute the gallery before doing this!

Practice: [Create and Name Tables](#), [Mute Gallery](#)

2.4. Raise hands to join the class podium

You can have learners raise their hands when there are questions so that the whole class can hear. Alternatively, learners can raise their hand when they would like to present something for their entire table group to the class.

Practice: [Raise hand](#), [Request learners to raise or lower hand](#)

2.5. Allow learners to screen share

Learners can share their screen in class, provided you have given them the approval to do so. A picture is worth a thousand words and screen sharing allows the class to quickly see what their peer at the podium is articulating.

Practice: [Share screen with class](#)

2.6. Use panels

Learners who are presenting to the class can be enlarged on the screen through panels. This is an effective way to refocus the class's attention on the speaker. Panels are also great for group presentations or guest speakers.

Practice: [Host panel](#)

2.7. Leverage chat for classroom collaboration

Encourage learners to interact via chat. Instructors and learners can directly message the class, the table, or individual people in the classroom. Students can also download a transcript of the chat if needed.

Practice: [Collaborate in chat](#)

2.8. Post a question at the start of class

You can post a question related to the topic you plan to discuss in class. Ask learners to answer in the Q&A section when they join the class. Once the majority of the class has answered, you can set the timer and ask learners to discuss their answers with their tablemates to facilitate knowledge sharing. Ask a few learners to raise their hands and share. Or you can set the class in discussion mode for a free form conversation.

Practice: [Use Q&A](#)