



LESSON 17: Recognition Ceremony

LESSON DESCRIPTION: Students are recognized for their participation in the Screen-Free Challenge.

FOCUS QUESTIONS: What have you learned about yourselves while staying screen-free

OBJECTIVES: Students will:

- celebrate their efforts and successes in completing the Screen-Free Challenge

LENGTH OF LESSON: This lesson will take 30 – 45 minutes.

OPTIONAL MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Camera
- Power Point Slides of students doing other activities than watching screens. The school year book or newspaper may have photos you can use. This can also be an assignment of the art or computer class.
- Have the Power Point slides accompanied by sound track of songs that are associated with success: e.g., “We are the Champions” (Queen), “Roar” (Katy Perry), “Firework,” “Theme from 2001: A Space Odyssey,” “Eye of the Tiger” Rocky Balboa, “Getting Strong Now,” Aladdin – “A Whole New World,” “We will Rock You,” (Queen), “Cup of Life” (Ricky Martin).

PROCEDURE:

Teacher's Note: This lesson should fall the day after the end of the Screen-Free Challenge or as close as possible to that day. Prior to the lesson, you can calculate the participation rate for your class by dividing the number of slips turned in by the total number of slips possible and multiplying by 100 to get the percentage. You can calculate the total number of slips possible by multiplying the number of days in the Screen-Free Challenge by the number of students in your class. Compare the participation rates of the classrooms to determine which classroom had the highest participation.

Activity 17.1: Pre- Assembly Activities

1. Give a short survey to students about their participation in Take the Challenge. A sample survey is attached. Basically the survey will ask questions about what they did instead of watching screens, what they liked, what they learned from going screen free, and what were some of the benefits? There are also questions about what they didn't like about the program but the positive responses can be used in the Assembly.

Look through the surveys and identify positive statements and interesting activities. These can be used in the Power Point opening. For example, one student wrote:

"The TV turn off really had a positive effect on me. At first I didn't think that TV had any negative effects but after doing it, I was concentrating better, doing my work better and I was more organized."

What I liked about TV Turnoff is that you find that there are other things to do besides TV. I usually couldn't find anything to do besides TV when Mom would tell me to get off. I thought that was really cool, when you do it for a long period of time it began to get really easy to find things to do."

2. Create a Power Point Slide Show of students doing activities other than watching screens. Try to have a variety of activities: sports, individual outdoor activities, eg. walking, swimming, music (photos of the band as well as individual students playing instruments). Have photos of students hanging out with friends (and not watching a video), students doing service projects, doing homework, spending time with grandparents, etc.

The school year book or newspaper may have photos you can use. This can also be an assignment of the art class, computer class, or English class.

Include quotations of students from the survey. You can also use quotations from work the students did in their lessons. Have teachers be on the lookout for student work you can use in the assembly.

Activity 17.2: School-wide Assembly

1. Gather students together to acknowledge their participation in the Screen-Free Challenge.
2. While students are entering the auditorium have the Power Point slide show running accompanied by a sound track of songs that are associated with success: e.g., “We are the Champions” (Queen), “Roar” (Katy Perry), “Firework,” “Theme from 2001: A Space Odyssey,” “Eye of the Tiger” Rocky Balboa, “Getting Strong Now,” Aladdin – “A Whole New World,” “We will Rock You,” (Queen), “Cup of Life” (Ricky Martin).
3. This is a great time to share student campaign products that were created as a part of the lessons:
 - This can include videos, or Power Point Presentations but limit to 60 seconds per video or take clips from different student products. (Lessons 6 and 7)
 - If your students made radio ads have groups of students come to the front and read the radio ad.
 - T-shirts with designs created by students can be tied into a knot and thrown into the crowd.
 - Scenes from plays that were written by students can be performed. (Lesson 12)
 - Posters the students created can also be included in the Power Point by either taking a photo of the poster or scanning it. (Lesson 8)
4. Work with students to plan the Closing Ceremony. Try to make the Ceremony their Celebratory event as much as possible. You may want to work with an existing group such as the Key Club, Honors Society, Cheerleaders, or start a new student organization. A group of students from Escanaba Junior High formed a group they called: Students Prompting Others to Reduce Television and Screens (SPORTS). They organized an art contest for elementary students and a carnival for the younger children while the parents went into the auditorium and watched the videos the students had made about media violence and excessive media use. It was a huge success.
5. Encourage students to be the MCs for the assembly with the administrator or lead teachers.

Tell them to reflect on their time without screens. Ask them to rate how hard the challenge was for them. If it was easier than they thought, have them raise their hands. Tell students everyone who participated should feel very proud of themselves, just as all adults at the school are very proud of them for completing the Screen-Free Challenge. Explain you hope the skills they learned during the Screen-Free Challenge will be useful to them for the rest of their lives.
6. Tell the students you hope they learned a lot about themselves and about why they watch TV, movies, and DVDs, play video/computer/cell phones games, and text. Tell them they have definitely learned they can survive without screens and hopefully they have discovered many fun and productive ways to spend their time.
7. Optional: Ask students what they enjoyed most during the Screen-Free Challenge. Call on students for responses.

Activity 17.3: Students are recognized for their participation

1. Tell students, first we will recognize those students who successfully completed the entire Screen-Free Challenge. If you stayed completely screen-free during all 7 days, please stand up. (Give this group of students a round of applause.)
2. Tell the students, now we will recognize those students who participated in the challenge. If you did not complete the challenge by staying completely screen-free but you made

Activity 17.4: Conclusion of Recognition Ceremony

1. Congratulate and thank all participants. Tell them they did a great job showing they are capable of accomplishing great feats when they put their minds to it and they are on their way to proving they are not addicted to screens.
2. Explain to the students they have completed the first part of the challenge and are ready to begin the second part of the challenge. Tell them you know it is easy for them to lose track of time when they are in front of screens. The next part of the challenge will help them gain control of their time. In the second part they will limit the amount of time they spend with screens by following a screen budget. Tell them they will learn more about the Screen Budget Challenge in their own classrooms.
3. Tell them after being so successful in the Screen-Free challenge that staying within a weekly Screen budget should be easy for them.

Teacher's Note: You may wish to take group photos of the students and display them as part of their recognition. One photo of the students who made an honest attempt at staying screen free and one photo of the students who stayed completely screen free.