

So it's the Tuesday before Spring Break. The kids are acting as if they don't care about your curriculum. You're wondering, "What is going on?" You're getting a little crabby. It's time for a break, and everybody needs one. But it's only Tuesday, and you have to get through this week. It happens to all of us, even me, and I'm the eternal optimist. I think that's one of my geniuses.

But I had to do something today to make it work for me. So I greeted them at the door again, and this time I really made it personal. I said, "How was your morning? What did you have for breakfast? What are you looking forward to today? How was your lunch? How was your last class? Welcome back, it's so good to see you again today!" Make sure you use their name in each sentence as well.

Just give them that extra bit of attention. They say "fake it till you make it" and I think it really works. So even if you're faking that you're optimistic, you become optimistic. We had one of the best days today. The students were really responsive, we were having fun... It was kind of odd on the Tuesday before Spring Break, especially since we had a hard day yesterday.

So keep it up - you can do it! Hang in there! Give them the affection. Give them the attention. Let them know they matter. It really does make a difference.