

Monthly Banner-Door-knobber Theme Signs

Background:

- You owe it to your students to greet them in the hallway each day with a smile and a “Boy are we going to have fun today!”
- I also ask my students to guess what we’ll be studying. I’m usually wearing some goofy outfit that denotes the theme, or at least a pin or other piece of jewelry to give them a clue.
- Sometimes I’m holding a book, a big dinosaur bone, a stuffed animal, other interesting object, wearing a hat etc.
- If all else fails they can look at the little themed banner that’s on the wall next to our door.
- It say’s “Welcome! Our theme today is: and then there’s an icon or clip art picture clue to tell them what the word is.
- It’s their responsibility to check the banner and really LOOK at that word. And...study those letters because....
- They will see a big question mark on the board with another banner covered up and the caption reads: What’s the theme of the day? Only the WORD shows on the bottom.
- Who remembers? Who can “read” the word? They get a smartie coin. Those cool plastic multi-colored coins you might have heard me mention during visits around my web page. My students save and collect them ‘til they have 10 then they cash them in for an “I’m a super saver” sticker and a trip to the infamous Treasure Chest!
- The theme also becomes one of our vocabulary words and might even get a turn as a WOW! (Wonderful-Outstanding Word!)
- I hang my Theme Signs on the wall, I’ve drawn holes and provided a slit if you want to use them as a doorknobber and hang on your doorknob.
- You could also run off a set for your students and let them color them and take them home after doing an activity of some sort on the back.
- They make a nice picture book bound together for one-line writing prompts too. Staple at the top for a flip up.
- People passing by also know what we’re up to and comment on the ever-changing and interesting themes in our classroom!
- Have fun!