

# Choral Responding

Catherine Rodriguez



## What is Choral Responding?

- *The students in the group respond in unison when the teacher gives a signal*
- *A fast paced method that maintains students active engagement and increases students responding*
- *Part of a teaching technique in Direct Instruction*
- *The teacher may use verbal call outs, flash-card style manipulatives, or an overhead projector.*

## Criteria:

- *Students must respond with short, one to three word answers.*
- *One correct answer to a question*
- *Presented in a risk pace to ensure the choral responding by allowing greater teacher monitoring and focus*

## STUDENTS THAT BENEFIT

- *Students with Autism*
- *Students who are ADHD*
- *Students who are English Language Learners*
- *Students in General Education*
- *Students with Learning Disabilities*
- *Students with EBD*

# How to Use Choral Responding in your Classroom

## Example of Cues:

- Thumbs up/Thumbs down
- Raise hand
- Hand on head
- Snap
- Clap
- Hand gesture
- Tap pencil/table (multiple answers)

1. Introduce choral responding by providing clear directions and modeling the procedure
2. Use clear consistent cues to signal students to respond
3. Can choose a wait time of 3-5 seconds before giving students their signaled cue to respond based on the difficulty of the information being taught
4. Provide feedback to group about majority response
5. From time to time call on individual students

## Benefits:

- Way to increase active student responding and participation
- Increases opportunity to practice skills throughout lesson
- Increases academic gains
- Students learn to read and write in a faster rate
- Students generate their own reply to an instructional prompt and respond orally
- Can determine which student are correct and those who will need immediate error corrections

## Resources:

Blackwell, A. J., & McLaughlin, T. F. (2005). Using Guided Notes, Choral Responding, and Response Cards to Increase Student Performance. *International Journal of Special Education*, 20(2), 1-5.

Group-Response Techniques. (n.d). Retrieved October 28, 2015, from <http://www.interventioncentral.org/academic-interventions/general-academic/group-response-techniques>

Haydon, T., Marsicano, R., & Scott, T. M. (2013). A Comparison of Choral and Individual Responding: A Review of the Literature.

Wolery, M. J. (1992). Choral and individual responding during small group instruction: Identification of interactional... *Education & Treatment of Children*, 15(4), 289; *Preventing School Failure*, 57(4), 181-188.