

Post-Show Discussion

Jim “Basketball” Jones Program

Below are some discussion topic ideas for you to share with your class. Not all shows are the same, but the general themes are consistent. I hope the below will help you incorporate some of my ideas into your normal classroom communication. I love to hear feedback from teachers and students, so feel free to send me a note from my web-site at jimbasketballjones.com.

1. We own our choices, so we should make good ones. Remember: Good Choice, Bad Choice, MY Choice.
 - a. How should we make our decisions?
 - b. Do our friends influence our decisions?
 - c. Do my decisions add value or just draw attention to myself?
 - d. Why is it my fault, when someone else told me to do it?

2. Learning takes time. We all learn over time, but it seems we are all in a race to get it accomplished as soon as possible. If we slow down and think about what we are trying to learn, it is possible that we might find a simple way to break down our learning and develop a learning strategy.
 - a. Why not try things all at once?
 - b. If I can't do it in a few tries, why keep trying?
 - c. What does POC stand for?
 - d. What does Piece of Cake mean?
 - e. Why do you think Jim “Basketball” Jones taught that lesson? Do you think the concept of breaking things down helped him with his learning disability?

3. Listening is a great way to learn new things and it is a form of showing respect to others. There are short falls in our listening habits that inherently create opportunity for us to misunderstand others. It's hard not to jump ahead while someone is talking and finish their thoughts or think about what we are going to say next.
 - a. What did we learn from Simon Says?
 - b. Why did people make mistakes in the game?

- c. What affects our ability to listen effectively?
 - d. Are mistakes bad?
 - e. Did the players improve during the game? Why?
 - f. What is success? Are successful people perfect?
4. Effort is critical part of a student's success at school and in life. Some people have gone as far as to say effort is more important than ability. I know that effort produces internal feelings of accomplishment and self worth. You can have all the right ingredients to make brownies, but unless you are willing to use effort to mix them together the brownies will fail. The number one reason people don't try is fear of failure. As educators it is important that kids feel safe to try and know that mistakes are learning opportunities.
- a. Do you think Jim "Basketball" Jones put forth effort while he was in school? How did that work out for him?
 - b. Why is it scary to try sometimes?
 - c. What do you think the secret to juggling is?
 - d. Active listening and the willingness to break things down along with your effort to do your best, will result in what? (The best possible outcome you could experience at that moment in time. Given more time, more instruction and more effort, the desired outcome will be achieved).

“Remember to make good choices and practice doing your best. Have a great year, Your Friend.....Jim "Basketball" Jones.

jimbasketballjones.com