

# Interesting Factoids

## Tips to Keep in Mind When Teaching Boys

1. Use good visuals to reinforce auditory presentations.
2. Provide additional wait time/think time to process information, especially when presented auditorially.
3. Incorporate a good deal of manipulatives, realia and models in your instruction. Legitimize touching the material.
4. Make an effort to keep the sound source to the student's right side when possible.
5. Provide frequent talk breaks to foster processing as well as a preventative way to decrease classroom disruptions.
6. Ensure ample opportunity for movement in the classroom. Know when to send a boy on an errand!
7. Don't routinely take away recess as a punishment for boys, use only as a last resort.

8. Always incorporate tactile/kinesthetic opportunities when teaching boys.
9. Use color and novelty in your instruction as a way to wake up the brain and enhance learning.
10. Keep in mind many boys need extra time for task completion.
11. Boys in general tend to mature at a slower rate than girls, therefore may not be ready for their assigned program/grade placement.
12. South Paw alert! Be aware that left-handed boys suffer learning disabilities 10 times the rate of righties.
13. Keep in mind that boys are less accurate at “reading” faces than girls. This can affect your ability to discipline nonverbally.
14. Boys tend to be more aggressive in temperament than girls. This has implications for grouping and pairing.
15. Provide priority seating (front row) for boys who are struggling learners.



16. Provide work tables vs. a desk to those boys who like to spread

out.

17. The greatest instructional motivator for boys is to teach to their interest area.

18. At times group by gender when using manipulatives, especially when working with rambunctious boys.

19. Color code file folders and instructional material as a way to help some boys learn to organize their material.

20. Remember that girls tend to “**whisper**”, while boys tend to “**shout**”.

21. Be aware that boys like to memorize facts. Take advantage of this trait.

22. Keep in mind that boys typically have a shorter attention span than girls.

23. Make sure that your instructional delivery and classroom management reflect the fact that 95% of the children diagnosed as hyperactive are boys.



24. Boys make up 80-90% of discipline referrals.

25. Boys make up at least 2/3 of the children on medication.

(Question medication vs. mediation.)

26. When possible place some boys with a male teacher. (role model)

27. Because a girl's "**Corpus Callosum**" (the bundle of nerves that connect the brains left and right hemisphere) is significantly larger than boys some researchers believe this may explain why girls are capable of completing several tasks at the same time.

28. Boys make up over 70% of students classified as special needs.

Note: Be cautious about accepting absolutes concerning gender differences. There are always exceptions. Remember that best instructional practices apply to both genders.