Give Me a Hand Activity

# Rationale

To facilitate a safe environment for students to do their first informal presentation of the school year, Give Me a Hand can be a useful ice-breaker tool. Those oral communication skills that have gotten rusty over the summer will come to life again, and the teacher will learn interesting details about each student.

# Materials

Give Me a Hand page for each person in the room—including the demonstrator

Art supplies

EZ Guide that has directions for drawing

Samples to show students

# Steps

Explain to students that they are going to create a Give Me a Hand project.

Tell them the five things they are going to have to list. You might show a list.

Warn students to NOT write Something that… on the fingers like the EZ Guide shows.

Demonstrate how to trace around the hand.

Demonstrate how to write on the fingers.

Demonstrate how to illustrate around the fingers to fill in all the white space—making sure to give useful tips like “DRAW BIG!” and “HAVE A REASON FOR WHITE SPACE” and whatever else you think of as YOU draw your hand.

After students are finished with their hands, they can present the five bits of information about themselves to the rest of the class.

Make notes on how well each student does in sharing information. Build skills and expectations for public speaking from this humble beginning during the first few days of the school year.