Strategies to Encourage Participants
to Do Take Home Activities

The following is advice from Kim Jackson on how to encourage participants to do take home activities.

1. Tell them on the first day that there will have an “around-the-room” take home activity sharing where everyone is called on at the beginning or end of the class. Give them X number of passes during the course depending on the schedule.

2. Offer raffle tickets for those who share. Draw at the end of sharing for a prize. Make sure it is a good prize. Work it in the budget. If the participants get good at it, offer only X number of tickets for the first ones to raise their hand.

3. Choose one representative per night to share the group’s experiences with the take home activities. Tables have to select a different representative each week.

4. Give participants “snaps” (instead of claps) when they share.

5. Give punch cards for take home activities. Give participants a “punch” when they do one. When the punch cards are filled, give a prize. Tell them in advance what the prize will be so they can be looking forward to it.

6. Give them coupons to restaurants when they share.

7. Write a letter to or email their bosses when they do X number of take home activities in a row.

8. Try to remember the theme or something special they did for their take home activities. Then refer to them by a special nickname. This is builds relationships with the participants. It means that I remember what you did and it was worthy of remembering. One participant earned the nickname “Red Dog Lady” when she brought a red dog to the training to use as a prop during the plop down activity.

9. Try to find or make things that are applicable to SEL and the take home activities and then give it to them the next week as a prize.

10. Take photos of them sharing their take home activities and then do a photo story for the next night. Put it to funny music.

11. Have participants wear a funny hat when they share.