



Guidelines & Tips



Possible virtual settings:

Setting 1:

There is a webcam & microphone, so you can see and hear the students

Setting 2:

There is only a microphone, so you can hear but not see the students

Setting 3:

There is no camera or microphone, so you can only communicate by chat

***Setting 4:**

Students are at home and each have individual laptops

*This is the least plausible setting

What to do before your session:

- Reach out to your teacher and confirm what the class setting is like
- Reach out to your teachers and confirm if they would be able to accommodate things such as printing summary sheets, keeping a questions folder, etc.
- For group activities, make sure to give the teacher advance notice before the class so she/he can manage the groups smoothly when it's time for the activity
 - Share printable materials with your teachers

NOTE: The materials team will share email templates with you to use when contacting your teachers.

- Download the session presentation and any videos
- Go through the session guide and online websites and prepare well
 - Prepare answers to your students' questions, if any

How students can introduce themselves

For settings 1 & 2:

- If time allows, each student can come up to the computer and introduce himself/herself
- If not, allow each student with a question to come to the microphone/computer to say their name and then ask their question

For setting 4:

- Allow a few minutes at the beginning for students to introduce themselves (name, and fun fact for example)



Videos/Websites

- Make sure to go slowly when showing a website so that students can have time to follow
- Share all the links with the teachers
(or in the zoom chat with the students if in scenario 4)

Brain Boost (lessons 2-8)

Settings 1 & 2:

Ask the teacher to choose 3 students to come up to the camera/microphone - let them pick and then answer a single brain boost question each

Setting 3:

Go through the brain boost questions in order as they appear on the slides. Have the teacher pick a student to answer the question and then have them type this answer into the chat before you go on to the next slide with the correct answer

Setting 4:

Volunteers can ask 3 students to volunteer (raising hand on zoom) and have each student pick and then answer a single brain boost question

Asking open-ended discussion questions

Settings 1 & 2:

Have the students discuss in groups (of 4 perhaps) and then ask the teacher to choose 1 student from each group to come to the camera/microphone to provide the volunteer with their thoughts

Setting 3:

Can ask the teacher to type the thoughts of three groups from the class who raise their hands up the fastest

Setting 4:

Volunteers can ask 3 students directly OR use the poll option on zoom to provide choices if appropriate for the question

Asking yes/no questions

Ask students to raise their hands for “yes”, “no”, and “not sure” options

Settings 1

You will be able to see the responses

Settings 2-3

Ask the teachers to provide you with an estimate of the number of students

Setting 4

You can also use the yes/no or polling options on zoom



Activities

- Show the students a website or video directly (e.g., different brain regions in Lesson 2, or the microscope in Lesson 3)
- If the activity does not require difficult materials, the students can still do it
- If the activity allows, you can send a copy to the teacher to print for each student or group of students (matching activity for brains across species in lesson 1)
- Practice these activities beforehand

End-of-session review

Review the key terms and new ideas with the students

You can prepare visuals to help with the recap



Summary documents

- Maintain this aspect for all settings
- You can ask the teacher to print each student a copy OR email the material to the teacher and ask the teacher to email the material to each student/parent of student OR ask the teacher if they can print one copy to pin on the classroom board



Questions folder

- Ask students to provide questions for the volunteers in their question folder.
- Ask the teachers either to take a picture or type and email the questions to the volunteers