



# Tips and Tricks

## **TO KEEP THE JOY IN YOUR CLASSROOM**

- Dionne Katinas, *Director & Religious Ed Teacher*

# Why did you become a teacher?

- ▶ Not enough teachers in the program
- ▶ Your Priest asked you
- ▶ Your Sunday School Director asked you
- ▶ You are a Teacher by profession
- ▶ You were in the right place at the right time
- ▶ You stepped up on your own



**Two Sections**

YOUR APPROACH

CLASSROOM  
MANAGEMENT

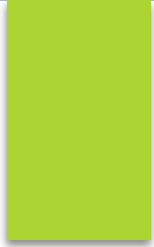
# Goals for Today

## **Your Approach**

- ▶ Confident
- ▶ Passionate
- ▶ Enthusiastic
- ▶ Creative

## **Classroom Management**

- ▶ Inviting
- ▶ Engaging
- ▶ Educating



# Section One

YOUR APPROACH



Your Approach

# #1 Rapport

Rapport Leads to Connection  
and Trust





Build safe,  
fun environment

Build in time to  
talk and connect

Smile

Learn early and say  
often the student's  
name.

Share something about  
yourself with them  
(outside the church)



What do you do to get to know  
your students?





# Your Approach

## #2 Confidence

Confidence Leads to  
Growth







Prepare and Learn

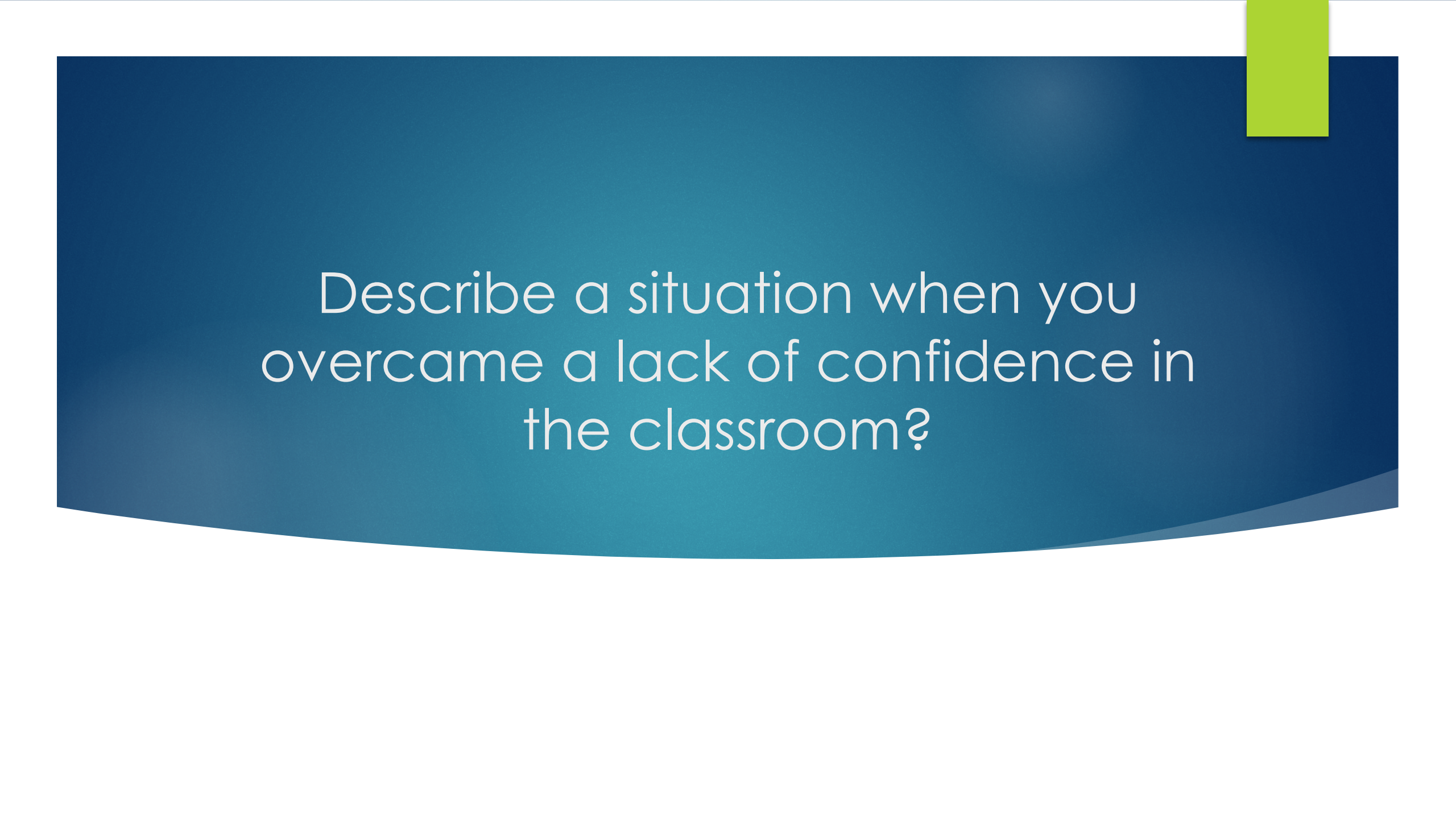
Be one step ahead

Be ready to adapt

If you don't know  
an answer ... Ask

Simplification is key for  
the young ones





Describe a situation when you  
overcame a lack of confidence in  
the classroom?

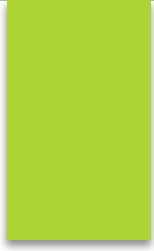
# Your Approach

## #3 Passion

Passion Leads to  
Commitment



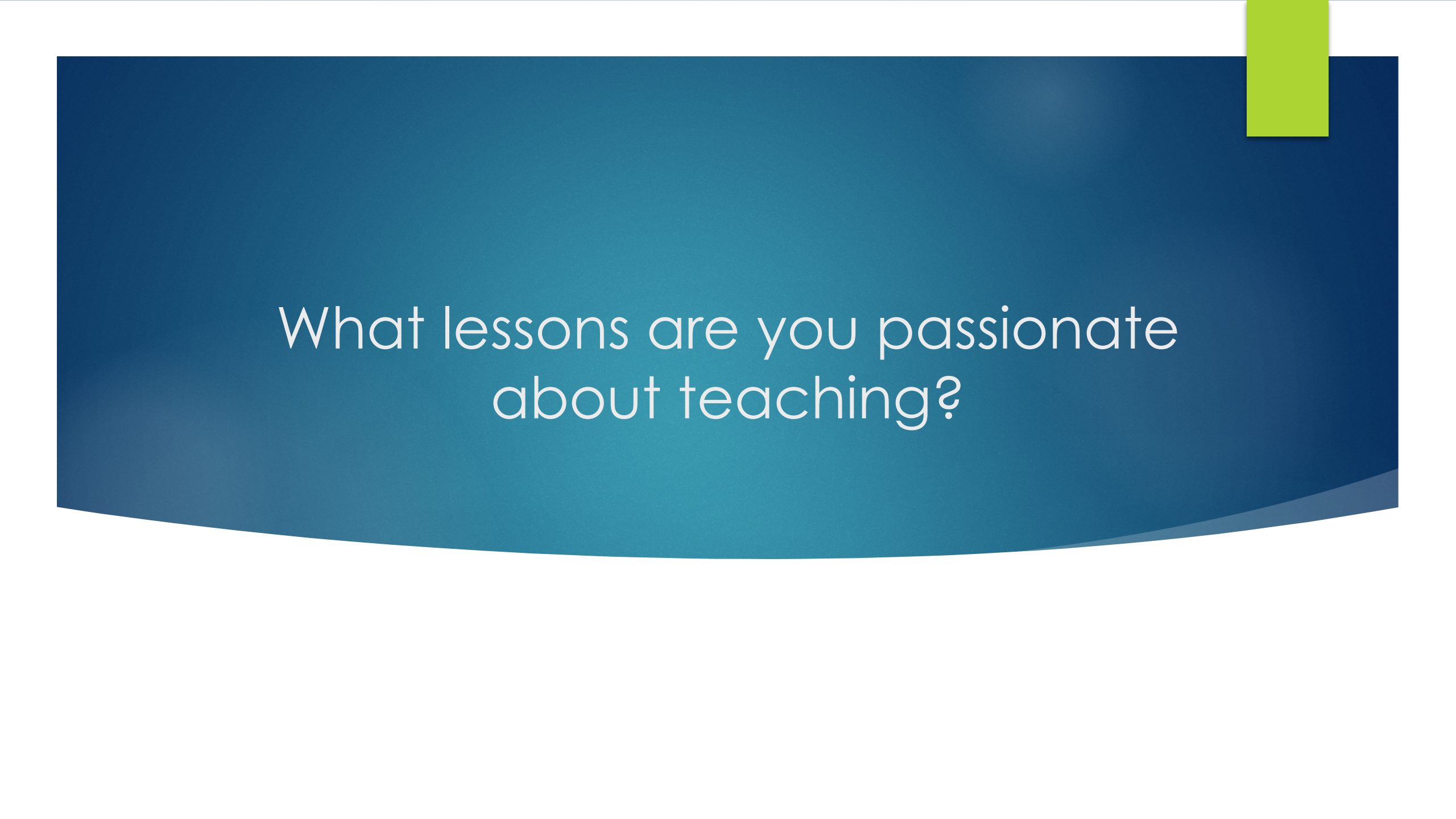




“Light yourself on fire with enthusiasm  
and people will come from miles around  
just to watch you burn.”

~ unknown





What lessons are you passionate  
about teaching?



Your Approach

## #4 Enthusiasm

Enthusiasm Leads to Energy



“There is nothing more contagious on this planet than enthusiasm.”

~unknown

The lessons become incidental, what people receive is your joy.





## Model enthusiasm

Reiterate the lesson

Play a game,  
Ask questions

Get their bodies  
moving:  
Sit, stand  
Sing, chat  
Make sign of cross  
Stretch, breathe



What have you done in your class that  
you saw the students  
enthusiasm come through?





## Section Two

# CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

# CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

## #5 Structure

Structure Leads to  
Routine







Tell students the class  
routine

Students know what  
to expect

Older students can  
come up with the  
routine for the class

Share, encourage





How do structure your  
classroom time?




# CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

## #6 Communication

Communication Leads  
to Understanding







Send out emails to let families know what to expect from you and what you expect from them.

Make Calls

Reminders

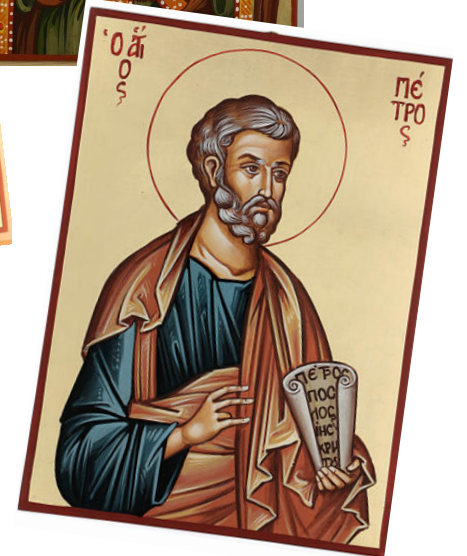
Group texts

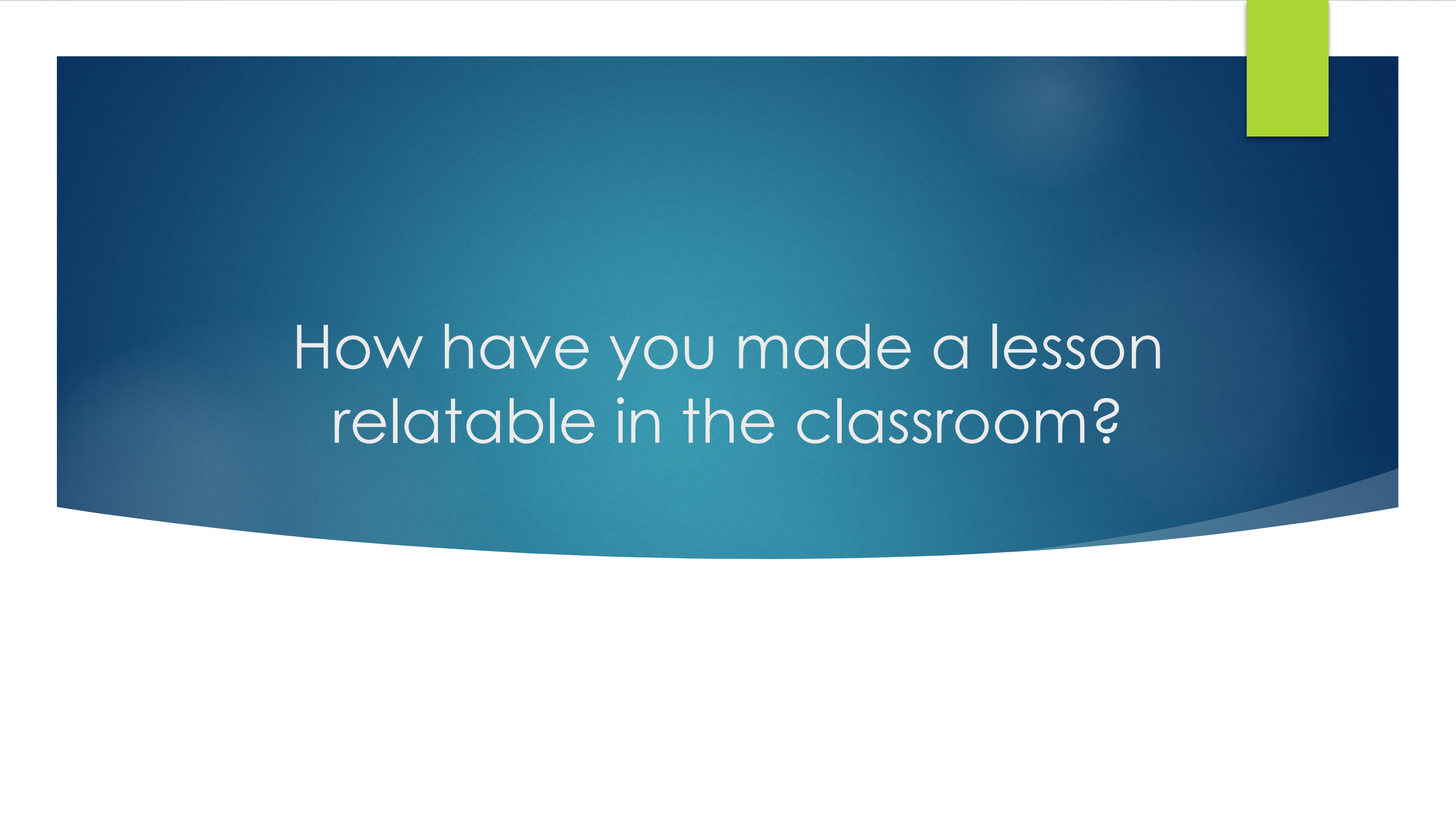


# CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

## #7 Relatable

Relatability Leads to Clarity





How have you made a lesson  
relatable in the classroom?



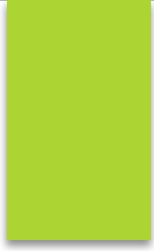
# Review

## **Your Approach**

- ▶ Rapport
- ▶ Confidence
- ▶ Passion
- ▶ Enthusiasm

## **Classroom Management**

- ▶ Structure
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Relatable



Dionne Katinas

Further questions