

## Tips for Lab Rats

This is a **CONVERSATION** lab your main goal is to get them talking.

USE THE ACTIVITY Packets!

Don't worry about getting through all the questions – the lists are designed to have more than you need so you can pick and chose.

You don't have to ask the questions in order.

If questions are too hard or too easy – either adjust them – or modify or chose a new question.

Ask follow-up questions like:

Why, when, with whom, what did/do you think, do you like, where, what

If you go off on a tangent and talk about other stuff that's not on the question list – awesome! – You are doing exactly what you are supposed to do which is have a conversation.

It's not an interrogation. You can react to or comment on their answers – and volunteer answers of your own.

Encourage the tutee to ask you questions as well. They need to develop that skill.

If you are working with more than 1 student at a time – Make sure one student doesn't do all the talking. Have both of them talk or get them to talk to each other.

If you run out of things to talk about – go get another activity.

Each Lab Rat may work with a max of 2 students at a time unless otherwise specifically stated

When the lab is full – the lab is full – no more students in – they will just have to come another time.

Be patient - you will have students who range from knowing nothing – to being way more fluent than you.

Encourage, help, be positive.

Don't be afraid to learn from the people you are talking to.

Ask you work with the activities – put comments or suggestions on the help sheets. Write additional questions if you think of them. Write vocabulary words that you had to look up if you thing they should be added.

**PLEASE PUT THE ACTIVITY PACKETS BACK IN THE FILING CABINET WHEN YOU ARE DONE!!**

DON'T do vocab quizzing – TALK! If they want to practice specific vocab for their class – help them practice it by talking about it in context.

When they have talked for 30 minutes – you can help them fill out their form

There are 2 types of forms:

Blue – (required lab visit.) Fill in the date, circle the amount of points, write your name legibly, stamp it.

Pink – (extra credit and make up points.) Fill out the date – time talked, write your name legibly, stamp it.

Working in the lab:

Sign up for 3 / 4 days

Take a picture of the schedule or write it down somewhere.

COME on the days you sign up for

Come on time – you can eat in here – but plan ahead with food – not really time to wait in lines in cafeteria.

When you work a lab – mark it down on the paper in back – Date and points – 30 to 60

30 POINTS = Came the day you signed up for. Came on time – stayed for at least 10 minutes.

50 POINTS = Came the day you signed up for. Came on time – stayed for at least 30 minutes working on activity improvement or working with another tutor.

60 POINTS = Came the day you signed up for. Came on time – worked with a tutee for 30 minutes.

50 POINTS = Showed up on an extra day – Worked with a tutee for 30 minutes.

Helping run the lab:

LAB CAPTAIN

Head Scientist           Frankenstein

Research Assistant      Igor

F – for one week – train Igor – cover for each other – be here ON TIME!! every day