

# TEACHING HACKS

## 7 THINGS TO SAY WHEN STUDENTS WIN OR LOSE

1

Encourage the effort, not the win.

"Great job! I can see you put a lot of work into this."

2

Help them focus on variables they can influence.

"What variables can you control in an academic competition?"  
Answer: your own preparation, attitude, focus and effort.

3

Help students manage their expectations.

"What's at stake if you win? If you don't? Why?"

4

Set up short timed competitions in your club or classroom.

"The best way to get better is to practice!"

5

Treat competitions like experiments.

"What worked? What didn't? What will you change next time?"

6

Help students evolve to a higher form of positive attitude.

"You did your best to plan, but the situation changed.

How can we adapt and make the most of the situation?"

7

Reassure your students you will respect them and their effort regardless of outcome.

"Whether you win or lose, I know you're a great student because I've seen how much you care. It shows in how hard you work."

**Texas teachers, librarians, educators and mentors,**

Discover how easy it is to launch your own free STEM-themed TAME Club!

Connect your students with exclusive scholarships, mobile science museums, science-themed comic books, statewide competitions in math, science, and engineering, and many more free ways to inspire your students with STEM.

Visit

[www.TAME.org](http://www.TAME.org)

**to explore free STEM programs in Texas**

**TAME**

Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering

Launching careers in STEM since 1976

[www.TAME.org](http://www.TAME.org)

Copyright 2015, The Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering