# Little Things That Make a Big Difference

## 1. Your Awesome Attitude
- YES, it is OKAY to make mistakes! And it will happen. Take it gracefully, make jokes…
- Don’t get discouraged if the first time doesn’t go as well as you hoped
- It’s amazing that you’re teaching. Inflict your excitement about your topic on others!
- HAVE FUN!!!

## 2. An Easy to Follow Lecture
(Organization, repetition, jargon)
- The basic idea: if tuning out of your lecture for twenty seconds will get me lost for the rest of the hour, you’re doing it wrong!
- Even your best students will miss things! They drop a pen, their ear itches, they get a sudden distracting craving for a sandwich…
- Say what you’re going to do. Say it. Say what you did.
- Clarify concepts with examples whenever possible.
- Explain/introduce new jargon. Define it on the board. (And you’re probably using more than you think…)
- Again, the board is your bff. Use it! Love it!

## 3. A Two Way Process
(Engage your students / Be interactive)
- Move around the room
- Do things (Talking about projectile motion? Toss a ball to one of your students! An example math problem? Let a student come up to the board.)
- Ask your students questions!
- Little questions – product rule example
- ***Respond enthusiastically when they ask you questions!***
  “That’s a great question!”
  “I’m glad you asked that, because…”
- Take cues from your students – keep an eye on what they’re doing and how they’re responding to you

## 4. The Board
- Put your name and the day’s topic (or a brief agenda) at the top before class starts
- Write clearly, and larger than you think you need to (“Can those of you in the back of the room read this easily?”)
- Use it! Use it use it use it!
- Title and label equations, diagrams, etc.
- “Is it okay if I erase this now?”

## 5. Your Voice
- Volume – Project!
- (“Can everybody hear me well?)
- Vary the tone
  Excited? Let your voice show it!
- Speed – slower than you think you need to
- Talk to your students (not the walls)
- A bit of relativity: pauses seem longer to you than they do to your students!