

ACTIVITY

NEVER HAVE I EVER: EDUCATOR LIFE

A lighthearted staff activity full of laughter, recognition, and connection.

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NEVER HAVE I EVER: EDUCATOR LIFE



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Prep: 2–5 minutes **Duration:** 5–10 minutes



A quick, lighthearted game where staff respond to “Never have I ever...” prompts and discover shared experiences. It sparks laughter, builds connection, and brings an easy energy boost to any meeting or break.

Why try it?

This playful activity helps staff realize they're not alone in the everyday moments of school life. It sparks quick laughter, builds connection, and brings a light, positive energy to any space.

Activity Variations:

Table talk version: Place 3–5 cards on each table and have staff take turns reading prompts, allowing for quick reactions or short stories as they play.

Staff lounge drop: Leave prompt cards in a shared space like the staff lounge with a simple sign inviting participation, so staff can play casually during breaks or downtime.

Instructions

Step 1: Prep your prompts: Print the prompt cards or use the one-page list. You can also add a few school-specific prompts for extra fun.

Step 2: Set the tone and start the game: Let staff know this is just for fun with no pressure to explain or share, then have everyone stand or sit with 10 fingers up to begin.

Step 3: Read and respond: Read a “Never have I ever...” prompt aloud and have anyone it applies to put one finger down, continuing for 5–10 prompts to keep the energy high and engaging.

Step 4: Wrap it up: End with a quick laugh, applause, or a simple acknowledgment of how much staff have in common.

Step 5 (Optional): Quick reflection: Ask 1–2 quick questions to close:

- What made you laugh the most?
- What surprised you?
- What does this remind us about supporting each other?

Activity Printables



Never Have I Ever: Educator Life Prompts

1. Forgot to take attendance.
2. Wondered why a meeting was not just an email.
3. Stayed late to finish something that should have taken five minutes.
4. Eaten snacks that were meant for students.
5. Gone an entire day without a real break.
6. Felt the Sunday Scaries before a school week.
7. Misplaced student work.
8. Searched the building for something you were already holding.
9. Responded to an email faster than you meant to.
10. Reread a message three times before sending it.
11. Felt behind before the day even started.
12. Brought work home with plans not to touch it.
13. Needed coffee before the coffee kicked in.
14. Laughed with a coworker to get through a tough moment.
15. Forgotten why you walked into a room.
16. Improvised when a plan fell apart.
17. Checked the clock more than once during a long day.
18. Felt proud of something small that no one else noticed.
19. Learned something from a colleague in an unexpected moment.
20. Felt grateful for a quiet hallway.
21. Needed a deep breath between tasks.
22. Stayed positive even when the day felt heavy.
23. Felt supported by someone on this team.
24. Made it through a hard day because of a coworker.
25. Ended a day knowing you did your best.
26. Started talking and realized the class was not listening at all.
27. Looked everywhere for the marker you were holding.
28. Said "friends" or "line up" outside of school.
29. Accidentally called a student by your child's name or vice versa.
30. Celebrated a tiny win that made the whole day better.
31. Fixed a copier jam like a professional technician.
32. Lost track of how many times you said "one more reminder."
33. Changed plans five minutes before a lesson.
34. Been rescued by a colleague at the perfect moment.
35. Left school exhausted but proud of the day.
36. Brought work home to finish something but didn't touch it.



PAUSE & PLAY:

NEVER HAVE I EVER EDUCATOR LIFE

How it works:

- Pick a prompt card and read it (out loud or to yourself)
- If it applies, smile, laugh, or say "same here"
- No pressure to share—add your own prompt if you'd like



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Ever

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attendance.

Never Have I
Ever

Wondered why a
meeting was not just
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Never Have I
Ever

Stayed late to finish
something that should
have taken five minutes.

Never Have I
Ever

Eaten snacks that were
meant for students.

Never Have I
Ever

Gone an entire day
without a real break.

Never Have I
Ever

Felt the Sunday Scaries
before a school week.

Never Have I
Ever

Misplaced student work.

Never Have I
Ever

Searched the building
for something you were
already holding.

Never Have I
Ever

Responded to an
email faster than you
meant to.

Never Have I
Ever

Reread a message three times before sending it.

Never Have I
Ever

Felt behind before the day even started.

Never Have I
Ever

Brought work home with plans not to touch it.

Never Have I
Ever

Needed coffee before
the coffee kicked in.

Never Have I
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Laughed with a
coworker to get through
a tough moment.

Never Have I
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Forgotten why you
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Improvised when a
plan fell apart.

Never Have I
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Checked the clock more
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long day.

Never Have I
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Felt proud of something
small that no one else
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Never Have I
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Learned something
from a colleague in an
unexpected moment.

Never Have I
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Felt grateful for a quiet
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Never Have I
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Needed a deep breath
between tasks.

Never Have I
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Stayed positive even
when the day felt heavy.

Never Have I
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Felt supported by
someone on this team.

Never Have I
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Made it through a hard
day because of a
coworker.

Never Have I
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Ended a day knowing
you did your best.

Never Have I
Ever

Started talking and
realized the class was
not listening at all.

Never Have I
Ever

Looked everywhere for
the marker you were
holding.

Never Have I
Ever

Said "friends" or "line up" outside of school.

Never Have I
Ever

Accidentally called a student by your child's name or vice versa.

Never Have I
Ever

Celebrated a tiny win that made the whole day better.

Never Have I
Ever

Fixed a copier jam like a professional technician.

Never Have I
Ever

Lost track of how many times you said "one more reminder."

Never Have I
Ever

Changed plans five minutes before a lesson.

Never Have I
Ever

Been rescued by a
colleague at the perfect
moment.

Never Have I
Ever

Left school exhausted
but proud of the day.

Never Have I
Ever

Brought work home to
finish something but
didn't touch it.

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COLLABORATION

BUILT BY EDUCATORS, FOR SCHOOL LEADERS

This resource was created in collaboration with dedicated educators and school leaders who brought their experience, ideas, and insight to every step of the process. We're grateful for their partnership in building tools that truly make a difference in schools.



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