**Get Started!**

**Round #1:**Make a game of lining up. Start by having all the students rise, and tell them you would like them to organize in a line-up by first names with A's at one end and Z's at the other.  Indicate the area where you want them to line up.  It needs to be long enough to fit everyone in your class.  Tell them to take their time, because they will need to find out each other's first names to do this.  You can suggest that they start finding out the first names of anybody nearby.  Then keep checking so that the people on either side are before and after them in alphabetical order.
When they are done, ask them to say their names outloud, going down the line, to be sure they have got everyone in the correct order.

**Round #2:**This time, say you will make it a little harder:  you want them to line up by last name.  See if they can do it quicker than they did for the first round!  **Set a timer or use your phone so you can use it for comparison with further practices.** When they are finished, check for accuracy and tell them to insert the places for the names of absent students.   (This is the way you want them to exit during drills and realign when they get outside for you to take roll.)

**Round #3:**
Now the action gets more intense.  You are going to tell them how fast they did it for the first time and challenge them to do it quicker the next time.  Repeat the line-up and report the number of seconds.

**Round #4:** Do it at least one more time, each time counting their speed.  Conclude by telling them you are really impressed and will need them actually to do it very quickly during the next fire drill, and letting them know that the **fire department actually times the whole building,**and counts how soon the teachers can report that the classes are all in attendance outside, so no one is still in the building.  That is why you need them to stay in alphabetical order until you have taken roll. (You can decide if you need them to stay in that alphabetical line-up or if they can be “at ease” once you have taken roll.)