Anticipatory Set/"Hook"
Research Base

Madelyn Hunter’s Anticipatory set or Set Induction is sometimes called a "hook" to grab the student’s attention. During the anticipatory set, actions and statements are made by the teacher to relate the experiences of the students to the objectives of the lesson. During this point in the lesson, the teacher puts students into a receptive frame of mind.

The purpose of the anticipatory set is to focus students’ attention on the lesson, create an organizing framework for the ideas, principles, or information that is to follow (teaching strategy called "advanced organizers"), to extend the understanding and the application of abstract ideas through the use of example or analogy. The "hook" can be used any time a different activity or new concept is to be introduced.

An anticipatory set activity should continue only long enough to get students "ready and set to go," so that the major portion of instructional time is available for the accomplishment of the current objective. Anticipatory Sets are more than just words and discussion with your students. You can also engage in a brief activity or question-and-answer session to start the lesson plan off in a participatory and active manner.

An important thing that anticipatory set does is to grab the students not focused upon learning. By having an activity related to what will be learned, it shifts their attention to the learning process. Anticipatory set can also establish a readiness or anticipation for what is to follow. For the "hook" to do so, it must pique students' interest. Otherwise it might do the opposite and turn students off to the topic.
Implementation

To write your Hook, consider the following questions:
⊗ How can I involve as many as students as possible, piquing their interests for the subject matter to come?
⊗ What do the students need to know before they can delve into the lesson plan itself and direct instruction?
⊗ How should I inform my students of the lesson’s context and objective, in kid-friendly language?

Specific examples:
⊗ Remind the children of animals and plans they have studied earlier in the year.
⊗ Ask the class to raise their hands to contribute to a discussion of what they already know about plants. Write a list on the board of the characteristics they name, while prompting them and offering ideas and comments as needed. Repeat the process for a discussion of the properties of animals. Point out major similarities and differences.
⊗ Tell the students that it is important to learn about plants and animals because we share the earth with them and depend upon each other for survival.

Great ideas for utilizing the “Hook”:
⊗ Provocative Questions
⊗ Review of previous lesson(s)
⊗ Picture – Cartoon
⊗ Story
⊗ Startling or unexpected statement
⊗ Refer students to specific visuals/ graphic organizers/ thinking maps

Examples of activities that produce an anticipatory set are having students--
⊗ Give synonyms for overused words, when the current objective is improvement in descriptive writing
⊗ Create word problems to go with a numeral problem on the chalkboard, when the current objective is meaningful computation practice
⊗ Review the main ideas of yesterday’s lesson, which will be extended today
⊗ State ways a skill might be useful in daily life, when the objective is to develop fluency with that skill
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A hook should excite students about subject matter.
Effective ways to implement the Hook include:
⊗ Review previous material that is relevant to this lesson
⊗ Short wake-up Activity: simple questions, example problem
⊗ Motivational Activity: prompt, visual stimulation, video clip, audio clip, etc.
⊗ Tie into students' personal experiences
⊗ Keep it as long or short as necessary
⊗ Remember to outline what you will say and/or present to your students before the direct instruction of the lesson begins.
⊗ Focus the learner
⊗ Motivate the learner
⊗ State the value of the lesson
⊗ Review as needed
⊗ Set the stage
⊗ Roll the "lesson starter" cube
⊗ Ask students to relate a personal experience related to the objective of the lesson
⊗ Ask students to list information from a previous lesson
⊗ Ask students to react to a picture, or answer a question pertaining to the lesson.

Anticipatory set can also establish a readiness or anticipation for what is to follow.

Additional Resources / Websites:
⊗ http://daveandnancy.homestead.com/Motivation.html
⊗ http://www.ops.org/District/Portals/0/SITE_DOCUMENTS/PLAN_FILES/files/Components.doc
⊗ http://www.iun.edu/~edusew/docs/7_Anticipatory_Set.pdf
⊗ http://k6educators.about.com/od/lessonplanheadquarters/g/anticipatoryset.htm
⊗ http://template.kea267.iowapages.org/lessonplan/
⊗ http://www.humboldt.edu/~tha1/hunter-eei.html
⊗ http://74.125.45.104/search?q=cache:yRGYS7FoCFsJ:tiger.towson.edu/users/kwiles1/Madelyn%
Step 2: Hook -

An anticipatory set is an activity which prepares and motivates students for learning.