

Classroom Management Plan

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Philosophy:

My classroom will be a safe, welcoming environment where students are loved, respected, and encouraged to grow. My classroom will be laid out to accommodate all types of students and all types of learning styles. I want my classroom to be a reflection of the class occupying it. They will be welcomed with love as I will provide opportunities for students to work together to make the classroom their own. I want my students to be respected as individuals, therefore, equipping my classroom with all the tools necessary to meet individuals needs and interests. Furthermore, I want my classroom to be a place where, no matter what soil each student is rooted in, all students can grow.

I want love to be the heart of my classroom management. I plan to build a relationship with each student by greeting them at the door, setting aside time for them to share about what is going on in their lives both as a class and individually with me, and setting an individual goal that I can help them accomplish throughout the year (may or may not be specific to school). I plan to build a relationship with families by sending home a letter outlining the who I am along with my expectations of their child and procedures within my classroom, setting up a school website to keep them informed of what is going on in our classroom, and using emails, phone calls, or notes to communicate with them on a frequent basis about their child's progress in my classroom. I plan to allow my students to bring pictures to hang up around the classroom that describe who they are (ex: family, pets, interests, accomplishments). This will allow me to learn who my students are beyond my classroom walls. For the days I am too busy to reach every student on a personal level I want handshakes, hugs, and handwritten messages in place to show the student they are in my heart and I am still cheering them on.

Although love is at the heart of my classroom management, I want respect to be its foundation. I believe respect plays a major role in any type of classroom management. Respect is a give and take. If I want to be respected by my students, I must first give them the respect they deserve. I plan to establish this respect by creating procedures, with the help of my students, and faithfully standing by these procedures. Procedures provided consistency and let students know you mean what you say. I will also show students I respect them by providing them with choices. Some of these choices may include seating, activities, or how they communicate what they know. I also think it is important to show students that you respect their property and give them a space that is just for them and their materials. It is also my responsibility to respect what my students have to say and give them time to express their own knowledge and opinions. I will provide ample time for collaboration and count down before expecting them to transition and/or give me their attention. That way they have an opportunity to complete their thought or come to a stopping point in their work. I will also show respect for their individuality by providing materials for them to be successful in not only academically but within their interest areas. Respect is not only the foundation of my classroom management but the foundation of my one and only rule... Have respect for yourself, others, and property.

With respect as the foundation and love at the heart, I want my classroom to be a place where each student can grow. I will encourage growth by holding my students to high expectations. Each student will be challenged right above their level so that they are continually moving up. This will require me to constantly differentiate what I am teaching. I will also give students increased independence. When students are forced to make their own decisions and manage their own time, they learn how to be responsible for their own education. I will

implement these ideas by having work assigned to each student that they must accomplish by the end of the week. This gives me an opportunity to differentiate tasks for each student and hold them responsible for completing tasks on their own. I will also give them time at the end of each day where they will be given a select amount of choices, of certain activities, to partake in during the allotted time. They will have to rotate choices every ten minutes, also teaching them time management. Students will also have a chance to grow in their interest areas as these will be set up around the room for students to go to after they have completed expected tasks. Allowing students room to grow as individuals can be frightening but is essential to the overall success of one's classroom.

Classroom management is what determines the success of a class. There are several approaches to classroom management but one's philosophy drives how one runs a classroom. My classroom will be a safe, welcoming environment where students are loved, respected, and encouraged to grow. Love will be at the heart of my classroom, as everyone will know they belong. Respect will be the foundation, as everyone will be given respect and expected to show it in return. With respect as the soil, love as the water, and a ray of humor, my classroom will be an environment where everyone can grow.

First Days:

The first days of school are the most vital. They set the tone for the rest of the year. The first day is the day you can teach students the rules, procedures, and expectations in your classroom. For me I want my classroom philosophy to be clearly visible the second the students walk into the classroom. This means I need to have a classroom management plan in place that

is effective and reflects my philosophy. Below is a snapshot of the plan I have in place and will be implementing the first days of school. Appendix A provides visuals and examples about what these strategies may look like within my classroom.

My classroom management will begin before students even step foot in the door. Prior to school starting I will create take home packets for both parents and students. The packet will include an introduction of myself, rules and procedures I use in my classroom, expectations of students and parents, a supply list, forms for parents and students to fill out that allows me to get to know them better and their needs, etc. I will also host an open house for students and families to come in and get a feel for the environment before school begins. During this time, I will meet with families to answer any questions they may have and figure out their expectations of me as the teacher.

I will greet my students at the door, not only on the first day, but every day. I plan to create a handshake with each one of my students to do as they enter the room each day. I want it to be a personalized, so they know that I care about them as an individual. I expect my students to then go check in, so I know how they are doing each morning, which will allow me to address any concerns that may be affecting the student that day. After that I expect them to grab their bell work drawer and begin working on the individualized tasks I need them to complete that day. This gives me an opportunity to differentiate tasks based on each student.

After bell work we will transition into our morning meeting. We will go over the classroom rules and my expectations of them throughout the day. We discuss what is going on throughout the day and talk about upcoming events. Students will have an opportunity to share

anything exciting that may be going on in their lives. I will also use this time to discuss any concerns I am having and work together with the students to solve any issues. During the morning meeting we will discuss class jobs, so students are again aware what is expected of them which in turn reduces behaviors.

To manage student work within my classroom. I plan to have students write down what we are doing in each subject and highlight which ones include homework. Each student will have a homework folder and a take-home folder. Any work that needs to be completed outside of class will go in the homework folder and students will be expected to take it home daily and complete their assignments. Once, students arrive in the morning they will be expected to place their number (assigned to them at the beginning of the year to label their stuff) clothespin on their assignment and put it in the proper tray. Their take-home folder will be sent home on Friday with completed/graded work and any information for parents about the previous and or upcoming week.

Transitioning is a major trigger for behaviors. So, I plan to make transitions fun and enjoyable for my students. I will use visual schedules, so students know when they are transitioning so they are prepared. I plan to give students a warning before they are expected to transition to give them time to wrap up what they are working on. I am going to use silly sayings, songs, and fun tasks to make transitions enjoyable and exciting for my students. I will also make my environment that foster smooth transitioning.

One of the toughest tasks within my active upbeat classroom will be maintaining an appropriate noise levels. To do this, I will use visuals cues to remind students what level they

should be at. I will also use reinforcements to ensure that students maintain the level I expect. I will also use music to set the tone of the classroom depending on the activity we are doing. I will also use lighting in the same manner. I know I will have a more upbeat classroom, but I will have these strategies and procedures to make sure it is a productive environment.

Connections to Students and Families:

Connecting with students and families about what is going on in the classroom is essential to a positive learning experience. I plan to constantly connect with students daily by constantly checking in on my students. I plan to send home glow or grow notes to help students maintain or change behavior in the classroom. I also like the idea of brag bracelets, so they can share with others how great they are doing. I think these would be a wonderful conversation starter at home. I also plan on creating a website to connect with families. The website will contain any information parents may need to know. It will provide schedules, announcements, and posts to keep parents informed about what is going on in the classroom. I will also be calling parents on a frequent basis to give them a check in on how their child is doing in my classroom. I believe phone calls are a great way to build a relationship with parents and learn more about my students. I also plan on using apps to communicate and remind parents of things they need to be aware of. Appendix B provides examples of these strategies. I believe communication is key for the success of all children and plan to use these strategies to maintain a positive relationship with students and families.

What If?

Plenty of what if's come to mind when thinking about my future classroom. The biggest what if's that pop in my head are often tied to behaviors, more particular defiant behavior. I plan on using my special education knowledge and background to combat these issues. I will use individualized interventions to deal with behaviors in my classroom. For examples of these interventions see Appendix C. I know that as a future educator, that unexpected situations will arise in my classroom. However, with by planning and preparing for all types of situations, I hope I am better able to handle situations like these. By having a classroom management plan in place, I plan to create an environment that fosters positive growth for all students.

Appendix A

First Days of School





4 SIMPLE STEPS FOR

MORNING MEETING

Build a successful classroom community using the Morning Meeting procedures of Responsive Classroom.



1 GREETING

Children greet each other by name. Provides a sense of recognition and belonging.



2 SHARE

Children share news or information, and respond to each other in a meaningful and respectful way. Develops skills of communication.



3 ACTIVITY

The whole class participates in an activity together. Activities should be fun and encourage inclusion and cooperation. Builds positive class culture.

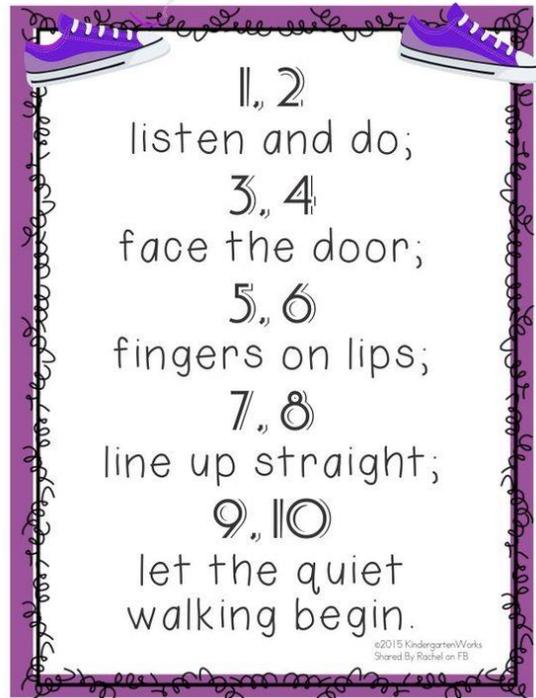
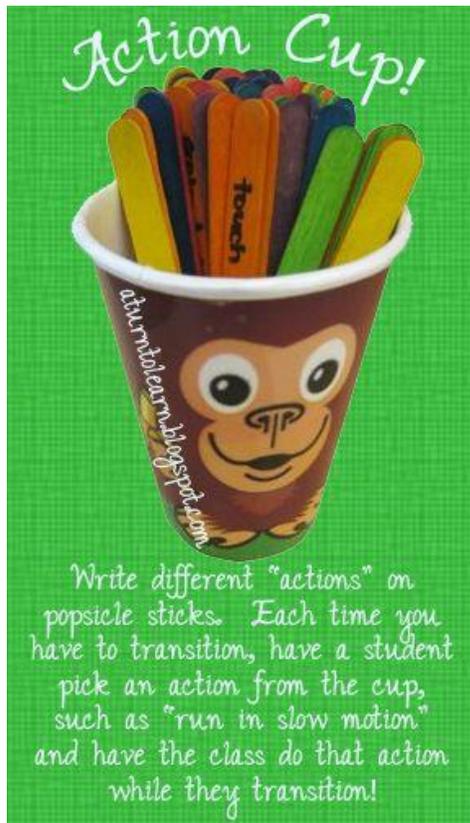
4 NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Students read and discuss a morning message written to them from the teacher. Develops language skills and eases transition into the day.



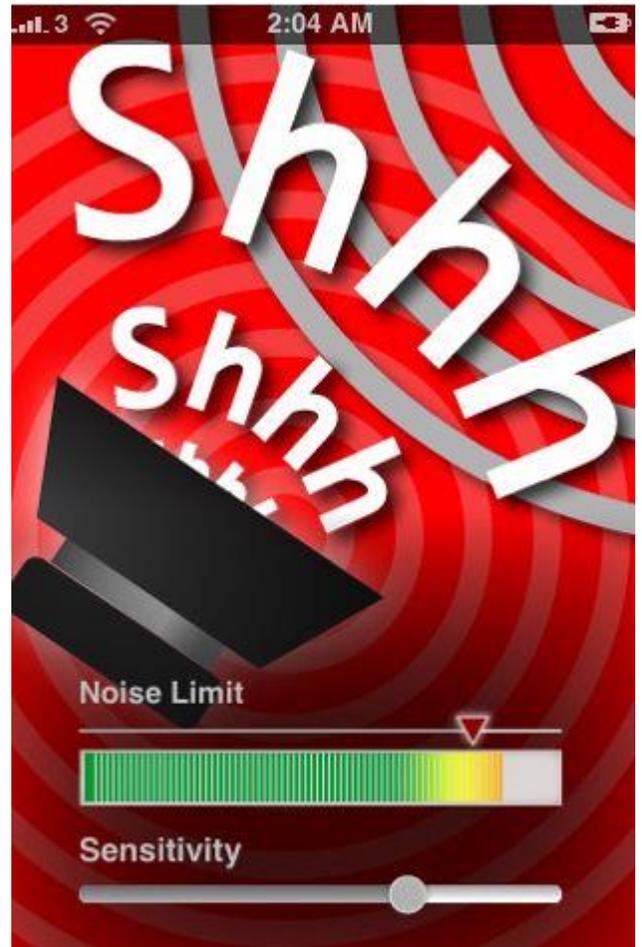
YOU ARE GOOD TO GO!
You are ready for the day.





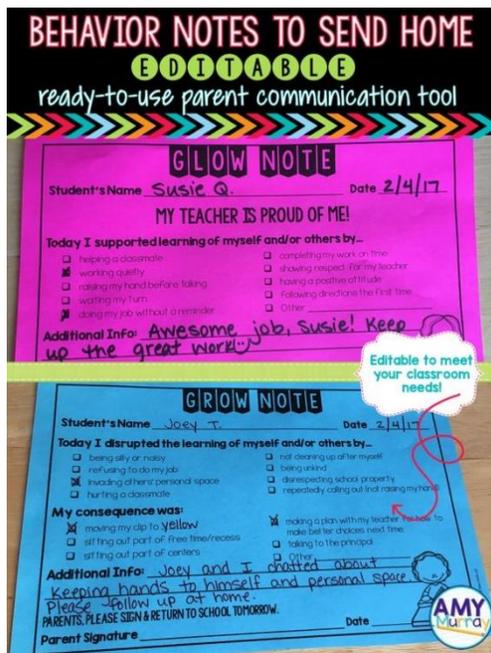
THE *very* VISUAL SCHEDULE





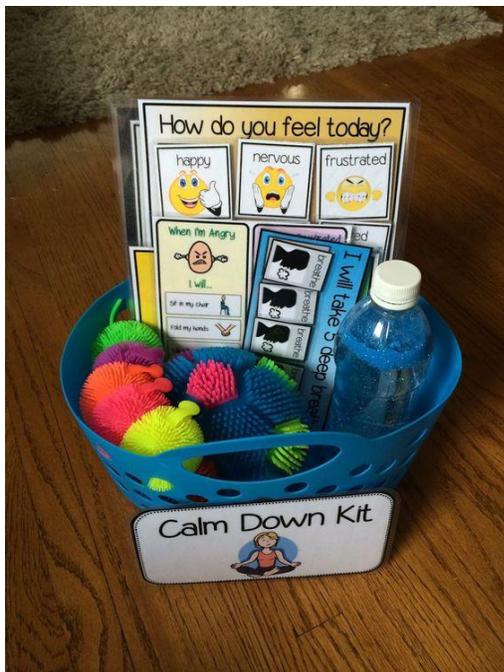
Appendix B

Connections to Parents and Families



Appendix C

What If?



References

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