

*Organized, effective classroom management is key to good instruction. Challenging students, especially, need to have teachers with never ending faith to truly believe that each student can be successful. The key to dealing with challenging students is to set up your classroom management for preventative discipline.*

1. **Prepare yourself first:** Students do and will misbehave in your classroom. They need specific discipline guidelines and consequences. “While we are free to choose our actions, we are not free to choose the consequences of our actions.” Stephen Covey
2. **Know your students:** Take the time to get to know something personal about everyone in your classroom. This will give you an insight to some of their behavior patterns. “A better world shall emerge based on faith and understanding.” General Douglas MacArthur
3. **Rules & consequences posted:** Immediately students should know what you as a teacher expect of them. It is important to include and discuss these rules with your students and share them with their parents also. Be sure to send home a copy of the rules with your students to be signed and returned. “Forget about the consequences of failure. Failure is only a temporary change in direction to set you straight for your next success.” Denis Waitley
4. **Objectives:** Daily objectives stated on the board boosts student awareness to start class successfully. Repetition is also valuable: i.e. Journal entries, daily oral language activities, and the posting of objectives. “Destiny is no matter of chance. It is a matter of choice: It is not a thing to be waited for, it is a thing to be achieved.” William Jennings Bryan
5. **Lesson plans:** Be prepared. Know your subject well before you model for the children. This is the Golden Rule for successful teaching. Your knowledge and enthusiasm is contagious! “Enthusiasm is that secret and harmonious spirit which hovers over the production of genius.” Isaac Disraeli

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## Suggestions for Successful Classroom Management

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6. **Grades:** Do not procrastinate! The mountain of papers will grow. Students need immediate reinforcement and recognition to succeed in your class and retain the information. “Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement. Nothing can be done without hope and confidence.” Helen Keller
  7. **Respect:** There is no room for sarcasm in your classroom. This holds true for the students as well as yourself. Sarcasm can destroy your hard work and credibility amongst the students. “If once you forfeit the confidence of your fellow-citizens, you can never regain their respect and esteem.” Abraham Lincoln
  8. **Communication:** Foster a caring relationship with students and parents by letting them both have regular updates on progress thru printed grade reports and individual conferences. Conferences can be either with the student and or parents, as well as telephone calls. “Kind words do not cost much. Yet they accomplish much.” Blaise Pascal
  9. **Vary instruction:** Repetition is important, but remember to creatively make learning as fun as you possibly can. Remembering individual student learning styles can help you differentiate instruction. “The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.” William Arthur Ward
  10. **Students’ rights and responsibilities:** Students have the right to an environment conducive to learning, a caring well-prepared teacher, and a right to choose how to behave with a full understanding of consequences of these choices. “Responsibility is the price of greatness.” Winston Churchill

*“Children are our future, and we should strive to do the best that we can for them. We must be our children’s best advocates. We must have faith in all children. When our children see that we do believe in them, the sky is the limit. Teachers and parents make it possible for children to dream and set goals for themselves. There is no career, in my opinion, as noble as the teaching profession. We shape the minds of our children for tomorrow. As stated by Aristotle, “Those that know, do. Those that understand, teach.” [384-322 BC].*



**C**ooperative learning groups help students get to know everyone in the class.

**L**esson plans should always be complete with opening & closing activities.

**A**ssign children cooperative learning roles so they know what their responsibilities are.

**S**ubstitute folders should be handy for when you are unexpectedly sick.

**S**eating charts should be available so students don't switch seats on the sub!

**R**eady and standing at the door every morning to meet and greet students.

**O**bjectives should be written clearly on the board every morning.

**O**bjectives should be mastered by the teacher before presenting to the students.

**M**ake every day a brand new day. Every student deserves a second chance!

**M**ake an inviting classroom by saying things like, "Let me show you how to improve." not "You never do anything right."

**A**lways walk around the room to monitor students' work and behavior

**N**ever pass up the teachable moment to make the student feel important.

**E**ngage students by having lessons that are interactive.

**G**et students beyond the level of comprehension in Bloom's Taxonomy. Challenge them at all times. Differentiated instruction is valuable to all.

**M**ake learning fun, fun, fun!!! Tap in to your creative side and create games and learning stations to enhance instruction.

**E**ffective teachers have an effective discipline plan with rules, consequences, and rewards.

**N**ever, ever give up on students!

**T**ry to be consistent in how you discipline students

