

Classroom Management Checklist: Teaching Rules and Routines

Describe the acceptable behaviors with words and actions AND be specific.
DON'T just tell your students to use acceptable voices:

- Describe the levels of noise for the various activities.
- Ask them to demonstrate what voices are used during reading time, you should hear silence. Ask them to demonstrate what voices are use during group work, they should speak relatively quietly to their group members. Ask them who they should be talking to at group times.
- When this role play is complete, once again, ask the students to repeat the 3 types of voice levels and when they are to be used.
- Provide opportunities for children to practice expected behaviors throughout the year.
- Focus on the students who experience behavior difficulties to role play expected behaviors and have them tell you what the acceptable behaviors are in the various situations.

Provide honest and ongoing feedback:

- Always let your children know if they are behaving appropriately or if there is something they could be doing to improve their behavior.
- Be specific when telling children what it is about how they're behaving.
For instance, you may say that you really liked the way that they put everything away so quickly and quietly.
- Give regular reminders and feedback, this will help to establish a great climate for learning.

What about the student that breaks the rules?

- This student should not be embarrassed. If there are other students around, you will need to bring the student to a spot that is away from the other students.
- Ask him/her why he/she thinks you've asked to speak with them. *Usually they can tell you.*
- Ask them how they should have handled the situation and what they'll do next time.
- Include them in the consequence that should happen. Sometimes they'll tell you that they should work alone or that they should give an apology.
- Your consequence needs to be logical and fit the behavior deviation.