



Strategy Tool: Defining and Teaching Classroom Rules and Routines

Creating a Lesson Plan for Teaching Rules - Example

Use the following forms to 1) define your classroom rules and 2) develop a lesson for how you will teach specific rules in your classroom.

Classroom Rules for Success
List three to five positively stated, specific, observable, and concise rules that will allow students to be successful in your classroom all year long.
Listen to others
Keep hands and feet to yourself
Use kind words
Ask for help when needed
Walk at all times

Develop a plan to teach students in your classroom the rules and routines. It will be helpful to review the lesson plan throughout the year.

Define Rule or Routine:
Listen to others
Teach: How will you teach this rule or routine to your class?
Listening to others, including your friends and teachers, is very important. Others have important information to share.
Model:
Positive example:
Listening includes directing our attention, including our head and bodies, toward the person talking, making some eye contact without staring, and waiting to talk until they are done. Listening shows that you respect what someone else has to say. Listening to adults can keep you safe.
Negative example: <i>(Remember to only demonstrate the "wrong" way yourself and not to have any students model the incorrect procedure.)</i>
Teacher models turning head away to talk to someone else while someone is talking.
Practice:
Have the class respond to a teacher's attention cue and direct their attention toward the teacher. Then have the class listen to the teacher provide directions for the next activity. Have the class practice in pairs at seats or on the carpet listening to each other talk for 60 seconds each.
Praise/Reinforce: <i>(Pre-correct and plan for providing behavior-specific praise statements.)</i>
"I see Sandra showing she is ready to listen by looking at me. Thank you, Sandra." "I appreciate how Anthony's body and eyes are directed toward me right away after the attention cue. He is ready to listen. Nice job." "Michael is turned toward Sam and it really looks like he is listening to Sam, which is great."